

A
DESCRIPTION
OF
ENGLAND AND WALES.
CONTAINING

A particular Account of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES,
CURIOSITIES,
SITUATION,
FIGURE,
EXTENT,
CLIMATE,
RIVERS,
LAKES,
MINERAL WATERS,

SOILS,
FOSSILS,
CAVERNS,
PLANTS and MINERALS,
AGRICULTURE,
CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS,
CITIES,

TOWNS,
PALACES,
SEATS,
CORPORATIONS,
MARKETS,
FAIRS,
MANUFACTURES,
TRADE,
SIEGES,
BATTLES,

AND THE

LIVES of the illustrious MEN each COUNTY has produced.

Embellished with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,

OF

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;

THE

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND OF

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

Besides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

V O L. VII.

L O N D O N :

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Side of St. Paul's Church-yard,

M D C C L X I X.

DESCRIPTION

OF
ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING
A FULL ACCOUNT OF EACH COUNTY



OF
CATHEDRALS

AND OF
OTHER MONUMENTS AND REMAINS

OF
ANTIQUE AND MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE

AND OF
THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY

AND OF
THE NATURAL HISTORY


AND OF
THE ANTIQUITIES

AND OF
THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY



A
 DESCRIPTION
 OF
 ENGLAND AND WALES.

N O R F O L K.

Y  ARMOUTH makes a very good appearance from the sea, and is esteemed the neatest, the most compact, and the most regularly built town in England; for the streets being streight and parallel to each other, the view is carried through them from the quay to the sea, the town being seated on a peninsula, between the sea and the harbour. The quay is the handsomest, and, perhaps, the largest in Europe, that of Seville in Spain only excepted: it is so extremely commodious, that people may step directly from the shore, into any of the ships, and walk from one to another, as over a bridge, sometimes for a quarter of a mile together, and is so spacious, that in some places, it is near

a hundred yards from the wharf to the houses. On the wharf is a custom-house and town-hall, with several merchants houses, that are extremely well built, and make a fine appearance. Yarmouth is walled, and there is a small platform of guns on a slip of land, at the entrance of the harbour, which is the principal defence of the town; the great guns that were round the walls having been removed by king Charles the Second. It is defended on the land side by the river or haven, which is on the west side of the town, with a draw-bridge over it. The port or entrance is to the south, and the sea on the east; but the north, which joins to the main land, is covered only by a single wall, and some old demolished works. Here is one of the finest and best furnished market-places in England, for its extent, and the market is kept on Saturdays.

In this town are two churches, of which that of St. Nicholas, which was built in the reign of king Henry the First, has so high a steeple, that it serves for a sea-mark. There is here a fine hospital, and two charity-schools, for thirty-five boys, and thirty-two girls, all clothed and taught, the boys to make nets, and the girls spinning, knitting and plain-work.

The seamen employed here by the merchants are esteemed the best in England, and tho' Yarmouth is not so large as Norwich, it is generally reckoned, in proportion to its extent, superior in trade and wealth; for upwards of half a century ago, above one thousand one hundred vessels belonged to this port, besides the ships which the merchants of this town were owners of, or concerned in, at other ports. Indeed its situation is exceedingly commodious for trade, it being seated on the German ocean, at the mouth of the Yare, which is navigable from hence to Norwich; besides
which,

which, there is a navigation from this town by the Waveny, to the south parts of Norfolk, and the north of Suffolk, while the inhabitants trade to the north part of the county, by means of another river called the Thyrne. This port is the chief rendezvous of the colliers between Newcastle and London; for though there are some dangerous banks of sand in the neighbourhood, the roads on the east side of the town are so safe, that they are much frequented by vessels that pass and repass, and the inhabitants are at the expence of between 2 and 3000 l. a year, to keep the harbour clean. Yarmouth carries on a great trade, both to France, Holland, the North and East seas, and exports such immense quantities of corn and malt, that many years ago, these articles are said to have amounted to above two hundred and twenty thousand quarters a year. This town has the whole herring fishery of this coast, in which the inhabitants employ a hundred and fifty vessels, and between forty and fifty sail, in the exportation: fifty thousand barrels of herrings, which some magnify to forty thousand lasts, containing forty millions of herrings, are generally taken and cured here in a year. These herrings are chiefly exported by the merchants of Yarmouth, and the rest, by those of London, to Spain, Portugal and Italy, which, with the crapes, camblets, and other Norwich stuffs, occasion much business, and employ a great number of hands and shipping.

The fishing fair here, or the season for catching herrings, begins at Michaelmas, and lasts all the month of October, during which time, all the vessels that come to fish for the merchants, from any part of England, as many do from the coasts of Kent, Suffex, and other counties, are allowed to catch, bring in and sell their fish, free of all toll or duty. In the spring, here is almost as

great a fishing for mackrel; besides which, the inhabitants carry on a fishing trade to the North seas, for white fish, called the North-sea cod, and they have likewise a considerable trade to Norway and the Baltic, for oak, deal, pitch, tar, and all other naval stores. These are chiefly consumed in this port, where every year many ships are built. In short, Yarmouth has more trade than any other town on the east coast of England, except Hull in Yorkshire.

In this town, and its neighbourhood, were several religious houses, particularly on the north side of St. Nicholas's church, bishop Herbert placed a priory of three or four Black monks, subordinate to the monastery at Norwich, before the year 1101. About the fifth year of the reign of Henry the Third, was built a house of Black friars, at the south end of the town: and in the beginning of the reign of king Edward the First, Thomas Fastolff founded an hospital here, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, consisting of a warden, eight brethren, and eight sisters. There were likewise in or near this town, two spitals, or houses, for the support of poor lazars or lepers, before the year 1374.

In the manor house of CASTOR, near Yarmouth, was an ancient free chapel, dedicated to St. John Baptist, as early as the reign of Edward the First, and there is said to have been a chantry in Castor-hall, founded by Sir John Fastolff, Knt. which, at the dissolution, was valued only at 2 l. 13 s. 4 d. per annum.

At HERINGBY, a village near Yarmouth, Hugh Attesfenne, by his last will and testament, made in 1475, founded a college or hospital, called God's poor alms-house, for a master, three priests, eight poor men, and two servants, which, at the dissolution,

lution, had a revenue of 23*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* per annum.

Sir John Fastolff, a valiant and renowned general of the fifteenth century, was born of a good family in or near Yarmouth, in the year 1377. He served his apprenticeship in arms, in the wars in France, under John, duke of Bedford, one of the most illustrious heroes of the age; and on this military theatre he afterwards continued to signalize himself for the space of forty years. In 1413, he was intrusted with the government of the castle and dominion of Veires in Gascony; and rising gradually thro' other preferments, he was at last appointed a general officer, and the king's lieutenant in Normandy. Soon after, as a reward of his merit, he was created a knight-banneret, and elected a companion of the most noble order of the garter. In the famous *battle of Herrings* (so called, because the greatest part of the convoy, which Sir John conducted upon that occasion, consisted of *Herrings*) this gallant soldier, with a handful of men, defeated a large body of French and Scots, and put most of them to the sword. In 1440 he returned, for the last time, to England; and being now of an advanced age, he passed the remainder of his days in peace and tranquillity. He died September the 6th, 1459, and was buried in the abbey-church of St. Bennet at the Holm in Norwich. Some people think, from the similarity of the names, that Shakespeare's famous character of Sir John Falstaff was drawn for this gentleman; but the more general and probable opinion is, that that character was intended for Sir John Oldcastle, lord Cobham, and that the name was changed to avoid giving offence to some of his descendants.

Eight miles south-west of Yarmouth is TOFT-MONACHORUM. The manor and church of which

is dedicated to St. Margaret, were, in the reign of king Henry the First, given by Robert, earl of Mellent and Leiceſter, to the abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, at Preaux in Normandy.

We ſhall now turn back to Norwich, and proceed from thence ſouth-eaſt eleven miles to LONDON, which is a ſmall town, that has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, the firſt held on Eaſter-Monday, for petty chapmen; and the other on the Monday after November 11, for horſes and hogs.

At RAVENINGHAM, ſouth-weſt of Loddon, Sir John of Norwich, Knt. about the ſeventeenth year of the reign of Edward the Third, founded a chantry or college of eight ſecular prieſts, who were to perform divine offices in the pariſh church of St. Andrew: but this college was ſoon after removed to the neighbouring village of Norton-Sub-Croſs, when a chapel, and other neceſſary buildings, were erected for the prieſts, who, in 1387, amounted to thirteen; but in the ſeventeenth year of the reign of Richard the Second, they were tranſlated to the caſtle of Mettingham, near Bury in Suffolk.

At ALBY, ſouth-weſt of Loddon, biſhop Herbert, or Agas de Belſo, the wife of Robert de Kia, in the reign of Henry the Firſt, gave the church, which was dedicated to St. Mary, to the cathedral monastery of Norwich; upon which a prior and three Black monks were ſettled at this village, as a cell to that houſe, which continued till the diſſolution.

At LANGLEY, to the north of Loddon, Robert Fitz-Roger-Helk, built and endowed an abbey of Premonſtratenſian canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary in 1198. In this abbey were fifteen religious at the ſuppreſſion, when their yearly revenues were rented at 104 l. 16 s. 5 d.

Fourteen

Fourteen miles to the south of Norwich is HARLESTON, a little dirty town, seated on the river Waveny, over which it has a bridge, at the distance of ninety-four miles from London. It has a market on Wednesdays, and two fairs, held on the 5th of July, and the 9th of September, for horses, sheep, and petty chapmen.

At the same distance to the south-west of Norwich is NEW BUCKENHAM, which is thus called to distinguish it from Old Buckenham, a neighbouring village, and they are supposed to have derived this name from the beach-trees growing there, called by the Saxons Bucken, while others derive it from the number of bucks in the neighbouring woods. Here was anciently a fine, strong castle, and the lords of the manor claim the extraordinary privilege of being butlers at the coronation of our kings. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs; namely, one on the 29th of May, for cheese and cattle; and the other on the 22d of November, for cheese and toys. At the village of Old Buckenham, William de Albini, earl of Chichester or Arundel, built a priory of Black canons, in the reign of king Stephen, and dedicated it to St. James the Apostle; in which, at the time of the dissolution, were a prior and eight canons, whose revenues amounted to 108 l. 10 s. 2 d. per annum.

Six miles to the south of New Buckenham is DIS, which is seated on the side of a hill, by the river WAVENY, on the most southern borders of the county. It has a charity-school, and a market on Fridays, with a fair on the 28th of October, for cattle and toys.

Eight miles south-west of Norwich is WIMONDHAM, or WINDHAM, a small town, in which the inhabitants are generally employed in making of spindles, spigots and faucets, spoons,

trenchers, and other wooden ware, in which both the women and children work. They enjoy a writ of privilege as an ancient demesne, from serving at assizes or sessions. In this town is a free-school, founded and well endowed by king Henry the First's butler; and Matthew Parker, archbishop of Canterbury, gave a scholarship in his college of Corpus Christi in Cambridge, in favour of a scholar born in this town, provided he continued two years without interruption at Windham school, and was fifteen years of age. Here is also a charity-school, for teaching thirty children, and likewise a house of correction, the keeper of which, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, had forty shillings a year paid him by the treasurer of the county.

Here was a monastery of Black monks, of the order of St. Bennet, built by William de Albin Pincerna, butler to king Henry the First, who annexed it as a cell to St. Alban's. However the founder made these reserves, that they should choose their prior from among themselves, and that the monks here should only pay a mark of silver yearly to the abbot of St. Alban's. In the reign of Henry the Sixth, it was discharged from any dependance upon that abbey, and was valued at the dissolution at about 212 l. a year, by Dugdale. Its chapel is now the parish church, and has two lofty tower steeples.

Ket the tanner, who headed the rabble in the reign of Edward the Sixth, was an inhabitant of this town. His followers amounted to about 16,000 in number, and he sat as chancellor or supreme judge, with his council, under a great oak, called the Tree of reformation, and there pretended to decide all controversies, and issued out his orders. He took Norwich without much opposition, and afterwards pillaged and set it on fire.

The

The earl of Warwick, after hanging threescore of the rebels that fell into his hands, offered them a general pardon, upon which they laid down their arms; but Ket flying, was taken soon after in a barn, and, with his brother William, was brought to London, where they received sentence of death: they were then sent back to this town, when William Ket was hanged on the steeple of Windham church, and his brother Robert, the arch rebel, hung in chains, upon the castle of Norwich. This town afterwards suffered other calamities; for on the 11th of June 1615, it was set on fire by incendiaries, when above three hundred dwelling houses were consumed, and in 1631, it was visited by a severe pestilence.

Proceeding five miles farther to the south-west, we come to ATTLEBOROUGH, which is seated fourteen miles north-east of Thetford, fifteen south-west of Norwich, and ninety-three north-east by north of London. It was anciently, not only a city, but the chief town in the county, and had a palace and collegiate church. It is still a considerable town, and has a good market for fat bullocks, sheep, other cattle and provisions; and has three fairs, on April 11, Holy Thursday, and August 15, for cattle and toys. In the parish church of this town, the executors of Sir Robert Mortimer, Knt. agreeably to his will, erected a chantry or college, dedicated to the exaltation of the Cross, and endowed it for a master or warden, and four secular priests, in the reign of Henry the Fourth; its revenues at the dissolution were valued at 21 l. 16 s. 3 d. per annum.

Six miles to the southward of Attleborough is EAST HARLING, which is thus called to distinguish it from two villages, that lie to the west of it, and are called West-Harling, and Middle-Harling. It has a market on Tuesdays, chiefly for

linen-yarn, and linen-cloth, and two fairs, one held on the 4th of May, for horned cattle and toys, and the other on the 24th of October, for sheep and toys.

At RUSHFORD, a village on the south-west side of East-Harling, Sir Edmund de Gonville, rector of the parish, built a chapel or college, upon the site of the parsonage house, about the year 1342, for a master or warden, and six secular priests. It was dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and valued on the suppression at 85 l. 15 s. a year.

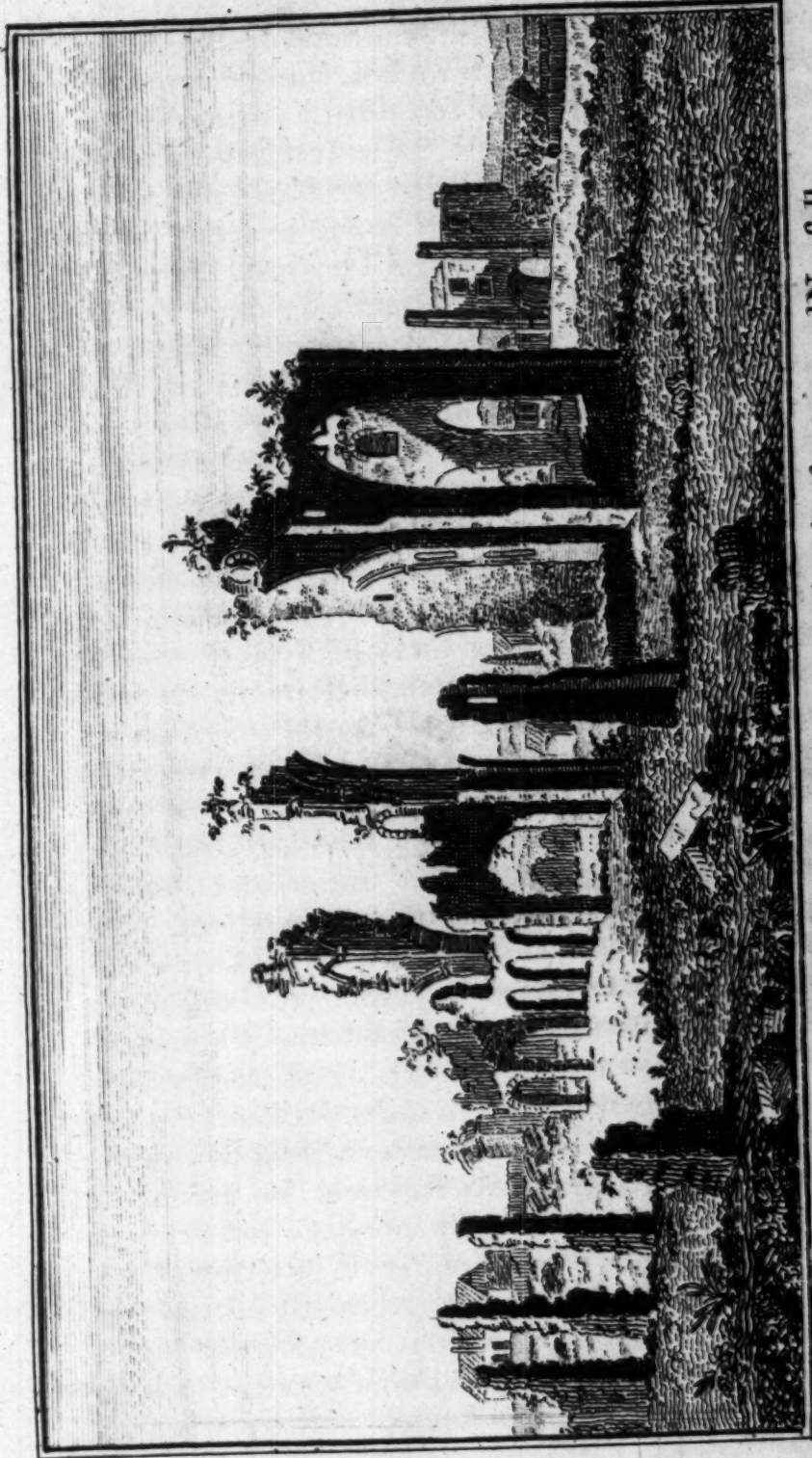
Nine miles to the south-west of Harling is THETFORD, which took its name from its being seated on a small river called the Thet. It is divided by the Little-Ouse, which here separates it from the county of Suffolk, and stands in a pleasant open country, at the distance of eighty miles from London. It is generally supposed to have arisen out of the ruins of the ancient Sitomagus, a Roman city, which was destroyed by the Danes: but Dr. Gale, and others, place that city at Woolpit. However, here are still many marks of antiquity, particularly a large mount, called Castlehill, thrown up to a great height, and fortified by a double rampart: according to tradition it had walls, though now there is no appearance of them, and it is supposed to have been a Danish camp. This town was once the metropolis of the kingdom of the East-Angles, and in 672, the archbishop of Canterbury held a synod here. In the year 870, it was ravaged by the Danes, during the reign of king Edmund. Some years after they returned again, took Thetford, and set it on fire; but for want of provisions, were forced to return back to their ships. In the year 1099, they came again, when they burnt Thetford and Cambridge, and rifled all the abbeys and churches in their way, gaining a great deal of plunder, with which

which they returned to their ships. After Canute the Dane became king, Thetford began to recover, and was so prosperous in the reign of Edward the Confessor, that there were nine hundred and forty-seven burghes; and in the time of William the Conqueror, it had seven hundred and twenty mansions, and the chief magistrate was stiled consul. It was a bishop's see for some time, when Herbert Losinga, being made bishop of Thetford by William Rufus, removed the see to Norwich, where it has continued ever since. Yet in the reign of Henry the Eighth, Thetford was a place of such consequence, as to be made a suffragan see to Norwich; but it continued so only during that reign.

Thetford, in its flourishing state, had eight monasteries. In the church of St. Mary's at Thetford was a society of religious so early as the reign of king Edward the Confessor, if not before; and hither Arfastus, bishop of the East-Angles, removed his episcopal seat from North Elmham in 1075; but it continued here only nineteen or twenty years before its being translated to Norwich: after which, about the year 1104, a monastery for Cluniac monks was built here by Roger Bigod, or Bigot, and made subordinate to the abbey of Cluny in France; but the place being found inconvenient, they began a more stately monastery without the town, on the other side the river. This was finished in 1114, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was made denison in the fiftieth year of the reign of Edward the Third. Upon the dissolution of religious houses its revenues, according to Dugdale, amounted to 312l. 14s. 4d. a year; but according to Speed, to 418l. 6s. 3d. A priory of regular canons, of the order of the Holy Sepulchre, or the Cross, was founded here by William, earl of Warren, in the reign of
king

king Stephen, which, at the time of the suppression, had six religious, whose annual revenue amounted to 39 l. 6 s. 8d. Of this priory we have given an engraved view. On the Suffolk side of the town, was an ancient house of regular canons, dedicated to St. George; but becoming ruinous and forsaken, abbot Hugh de Narwold, and the convent of St. Edmundsbury in Suffolk, placed nuns here; and at the dissolution there was a prioress and ten nuns, whose revenue amounted to 40 l. 11 s. 2 d. per annum. Towards the beginning of the reign of Edward the Third, a house of friars is said to have been founded in the town by Henry, earl, afterwards duke of Lancaster. Without the town was an hospital, dedicated to St. Mary, endowed at the suppression with only 1 l. 13 s. 6 d. per annum. Here was an hospital, called God's house, before the twenty-fourth of Edward the First. In the reign of Richard the Second, here was a house of Augustine friars, founded by John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster; and here was likewise a college, dedicated to St. Mary, consisting of a master and fellows, which, at the suppression, was valued at 109 l. per annum.

Thetford had likewise formerly a mint. It was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, who granted the inhabitants a mayor, a recorder, ten aldermen, twenty common-council men, two of whom are generally chamberlains, a town-clerk, a sword-bearer, and two serjeants at mace. It has been honoured with the presence of many of our sovereigns, particularly Henry the First, and Henry the Second. Queen Elizabeth and king James the First, made it one of their hunting seats, and the latter had a palace here, which is still called the King's-house.



The South East View of Thetford Priory, in the County of Norfolk.



It is still of considerable extent, though it is far from being so populous as it was in the reign of Edward the Third, when it had twenty churches, and the above-mentioned religious houses. All the churches now left are only one on the Suffolk, and two on the Norfolk side of the town. An act of parliament was passed for founding an hospital and a grammar-school here, and for maintaining a preacher, to preach four days in the year for ever, agreeable to the will of Sir Richard Fulmerston: and here is an hospital for six poor persons, built and endowed by Sir Charles Harbord, and his son William. Sir Joseph Williamson, secretary of state to king Charles the Second, erected a council-house, and presented the corporation a sword and mace. The Lent assizes for the county of Norfolk are commonly held in the Guildhall of this town, and here is a common jail, a Bridewell, and a work-house. The chief manufacture in this town is woollen cloth. The Ouse is navigable hither from Lynn, by lighters and barges. The market is held on Saturdays; and there are three fairs, on May 14, August 2, and September 25, for cheese, cattle and toys.

From hence a road extends thirteen miles northward to WATTON, a town eighty-nine miles distant from London. It has a church, only twenty yards long and eleven broad; and the steeple, which has three large bells, is round at bottom, and octangular at top. In 1673 a dreadful fire breaking out in this town, consumed upwards of sixty houses. The town has a market on Wednesdays, and three fairs, held on the 29th of June, the 29th of September, and the 28th of October, for toys, &c.

About a mile and a half to the northward of Watton is CARBROOK, a village, which was probably a much more important place than it is

at

at present, since it had formerly two churches, dedicated to St. Peter and St. John Baptist, which Maud, countess of Clare, gave to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem; and in the reign of Henry the Second, some nuns were placed in an hospital near the smaller church, but were afterwards removed, and a preceptory of a master and several brethren continued here till the dissolution of religious houses, when the estate belonging to it was valued at 65 l. 2 s. 11 d. a year.

In the parish church of TOMPSON, which is seated to the south of Watton, Sir Thomas de Shardelow, knight, and his brother John, established and endowed a perpetual chantry, or college, of a master and five chaplains, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints, in the twenty-third of Edward the Third, which at the dissolution was endowed with 52 l. 15 s. 7 d. per annum.

HINGHAM is seated six miles north-east of Watton, in the road to Norwich, ninety-four miles north-east of London, and at the beginning of the present century, had the misfortune to be burnt down; but it was soon rebuilt, in a much handsomer manner than it was before, and the inhabitants, not many years ago, were reckoned a genteel people, who dressed so much in the fashion, that the town was called in the neighbourhood Little London. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, held on the 6th of March, on Whitsun-Tuesday, and on the 2d of October, for toys, &c.

From Hingham a road extends ten miles north to DEREHAM, MARKET-DEREHAM, or EAST-DEREHAM, which is thus distinguished from a village named Dereham, at a small distance from Downham. This town had also the misfortune of being burnt down to the ground not many years

years ago, but has been since rebuilt in a very handsome manner, and is a fine large town, with several hamlets belonging to it. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, held on the 3d of February, and the 28th of September, for cattle and toys. In this town Witburga, the youngest daughter of king Anna, founded a monastery before the year 743, which was destroyed by the Danes.

At WENDLING, on the west side of East-Dereham, was an abbey of the Premonstratensian order, built by William de Wendling, clerk, before the fifty-second year of king Henry the Third, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. A little before the dissolution it had an abbot and four canons, and its revenues were valued at the dissolution at 55 l. 18 s. 4 d. per annum.

Six miles north-east of Dereham is REPEHAM, which was formerly remarkable for having three fine churches in one church-yard, belonging to three several lordships, but they have been long demolished, so that the ruins of one is all that remains. The chief trade of the town is in malt, great quantities of which are sold in this market, which is held on Saturdays, and it has a fair on the 29th of June, for ordinary horses and petty chapmen.

ST. BENNET'S IN THE HOLME, to the south-east of Repeham, was given by a petty prince, called Horn, to a society of religious hermits, about the year 800, who built a chapel here, but it was destroyed by the Danes in 870. In the next century a religious, named Wolsfric, rebuilt the chapel and houses, and brought some other religious thither, and before the year 1020, king Canute endowed this place, and rendered it an abbey of Benedictine monks, the revenues of which, at the dissolution, amounted to 583 l. 17 s. per annum.

annum. This monastery was so strongly fortified by the monks, that it resembled rather a castle than a cloyster, and held out a long time against William the Conqueror, till it was betrayed to him by one of the monks, on condition of his being made an abbot; but instead of meeting with this reward, the Conqueror caused him to be hanged for his treachery.

At MONTJOY, south-west of Repeham, William de Gifneto founded a chapel, in the reign of king John, dedicated to St. Lawrence, and gave it to the prior and convent of Windham, who settled in it a prior and several Black canons.

From Repeham a road extends three miles north-east to CAWSTON, or CASTON, a small market town, only remarkable for its bridge over the Bure, and its having a market on Tuesdays, and three fairs, held on the 10th of January, the 14th of April, and the 28th of August, for sheep and petty chapmen.

Three miles north-east of Cawston is ALESHAM, which is seated thirteen miles to the north-eastward of Norwich, and a hundred and nineteen miles north-east of London. It is a very populous, but poor town, chiefly inhabited by knitters of stockings. Here is a court kept here for the dutchy of Lancaster, the manor having been granted by king Edward the Third, to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, the first held on the 23d of March, and the other on the last Tuesday in September, for lean cattle, ordinary horses and petty chapmen.

At OXENHEAD, a little to the south-east of Alesham, was discovered in the year 1667 several urns, about two feet under the surface of the ground, also a square piece of brick work, each side of which measured two yards and three quarters. It had upwards of thirty holes, each about
two

two inches in diameter; and as it was one entire piece, without any joining, was supposed to have been formed and burnt in the place where it was found. Upon breaking it open, there appeared several apartments one above another, in which were placed small pots, and in the lower partition was one larger than the rest, which had a very small mouth, and contained near two gallons of water, which was clear, and without either taste or smell; after the water was poured off, there remained in the vessel a heavy lump of a crusty substance.

We shall now turn back to the south-east, and passing by Cawston, Repeham and Dereham, proceed 13 miles on the same road to SWAFFHAM, which is situated thirty-four miles north-east of Newmarket, and is esteemed one of the best towns in the county. It stands in an air highly commended by the physicians, who send their patients hither for the recovery of their health. The church is a sumptuous structure, and the north isle, which is very fine, is said to have been built by a travelling pedlar. The town is famous for the making of spurs, and in its neighbourhood are frequent horse races. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, one held on the 12th of May, for sheep, cattle and toys; and the others on the 21st of July, and the 3d of November, for cattle and toys.

At SPARLE, a village on the north side of Swaffham, was an alien priory of Black monks, belonging to the abbey of St. Florence, near Salmur in France, dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At MARHAM, west of Swaffham, was a convent of the Cistercian order, built and endowed in 1251 by Isabella de Albini, countess of Arundel, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in which, about the time of the dissolution, was an abbess and

and eight nuns, whose annual revenues amounted to 13l. 6s. 1d.

Four miles to the west of Swaffham is NARFORD, the seat of Price Fountain, Esq; built and furnished by the late Sir Andrew Fountain. The house is a good one, but is most to be admired for the curiosities it contains, among which is a cabinet of earthen ware, done after the designs of Raphael, a collection of antique urns, vases, sphynxes, and statues, among which is a small modern sleeping Venus, in white marble, by Delveau, which is admired for its female softness and delicacy. Here is a capital collection of prints, and a number of fine paintings, by the greatest masters.

About a mile from Narford is NARBOROUGH, a village, which John Bramis, a monk of Thetford, who lived in the reign of Henry the Fourth, tells us, was a city about the year 500; but this circumstance is mentioned by no other author, and even in Domesday-book, it is called a village, yet near it is a strong and military intrenchment upon a high hill, conveniently seated to command the neighbouring fields.

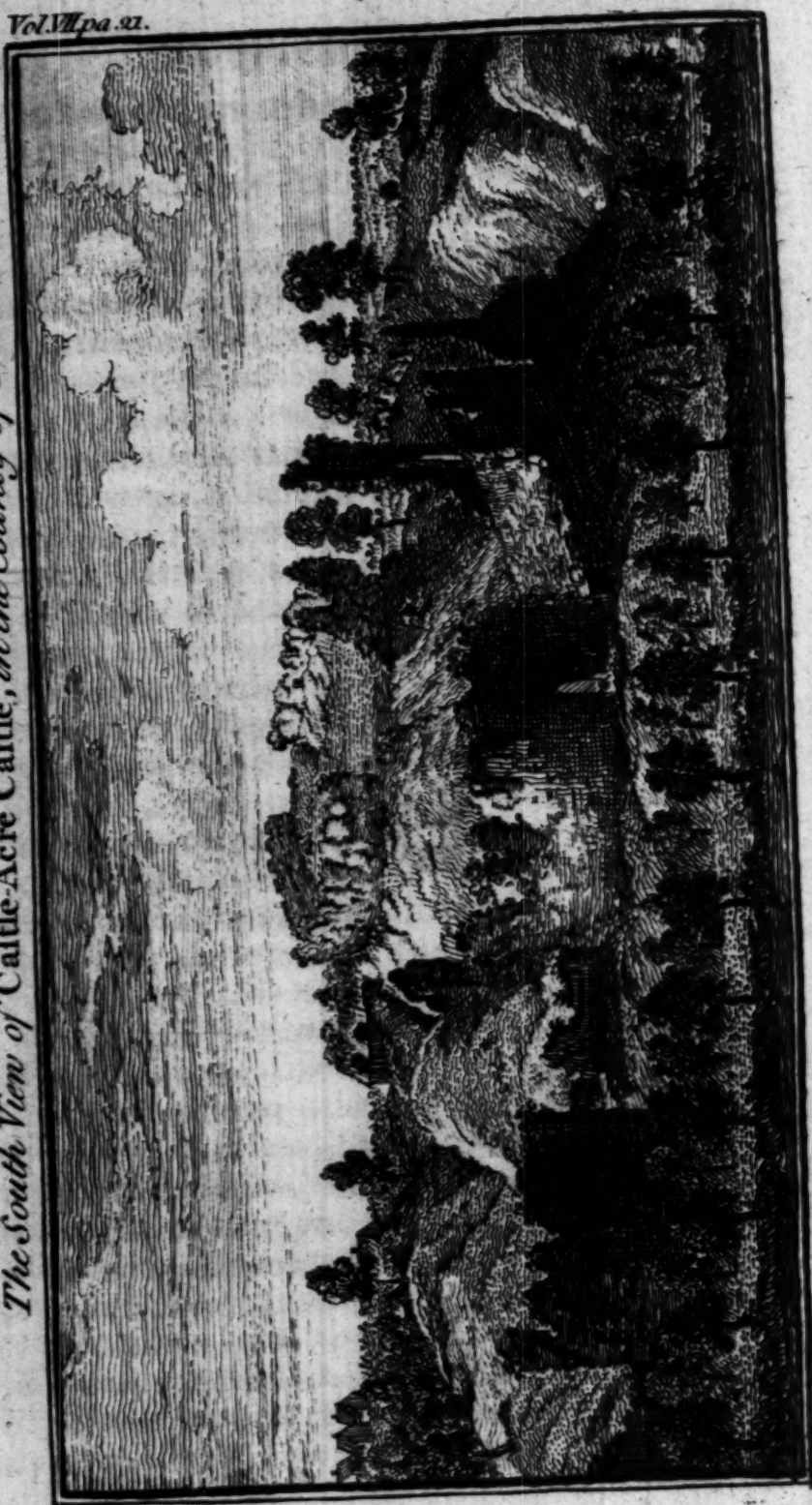
A little to the south-west of Narborough is PENTNEY, where Robert de Vallibus, or Vaux, who came over with William the Conqueror, erected a priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, which, about the time of the dissolution, had twelve canons, whose annual revenues were valued at 170l. 4s. 9d.

Four miles to the north-east of Pentney is CASTLE-ACRE, a village, which received its name from its castle, which is seated in a field, and was the ancient seat of the earls of Warren. John, the last earl of that name, gave this manor and all his lands to king Edward the Second. Afterwards king Edward the Third, in the year 1328, granted



The South View of Castle-Acre Castle, in the County of Norfolk.

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granted the above donation to Richard Fitz-Allen, earl of Arundel, the son of Alice, sister and heiress to John the last earl of Warren; in which family it continued till the first of queen Elizabeth, when Henry, earl of Arundel, sold it to Sir Thomas Gresham. It lately belonged to the right honourable the lord Lovel. Of this castle we have given a view.

Here a priory was founded by William Warren, earl of Surrey, in the year 1090. It was subordinate to Lewes in Suffex, and Herbert, bishop of Norwich, placed in it Cluniac monks, under the rule of St. Benedict. It was seized as an alien priory on the twenty-fourth of Edward the First, but in the thirty-fourth year of his reign, proof being made that it was in no respect subject to the power or assessments of any foreign king or monastery, except only, that whenever the abbot of Clugny came into England he used to visit this priory, it was restored to its former privileges and possessions. Its annual value, according to Dugdale, was 306 l. 11 s. 4 d. and according to Speed, 304 l. 17 s. 5 d. This priory also lately belonged to the lord Lovel.

About thirteen miles south by west of Swaffham is METHWOLD, which is ninety-seven miles distant from London, and is remarkable for breeding excellent rabbits, called Mewil-rabbits: it was even so remarkable for these in the time of Canute the Dane, that the duke of Lancaster contracted to have his family supplied with them for two months every year. This town has a market on Thursdays, and a fair on the 25th of April, for cattle and toys.

About seven miles south west of Methwald is WEETING-ALL-SAINTS, so called to distinguish it from a village, named Weeting St. Mary. This is a village about half a mile from Brandon Ferry, and has an old ruined castle. At about a mile distance

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tance is a hill, with trenches or ancient fortifications; and on the west side of this place, on the edge of a fen, is a bank and ditch, which extend for some miles. In the fields of Weeting is a pleasant path, called Walsingham-way, it being the road the pilgrims used to pass, who went to visit the lady of Walsingham; and at about a mile northward is another way like the former, on which were two crosses of stone, supposed to be erected for the direction of pilgrims.

HOCKOLD, or HOCKWOLD, is another village seated on the Little Ouse; and has a fair on the 25th of July, for toys.

At BROMHILL, near Methwold, was a priory of Austin canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr, in the beginning of the reign of king Edward the Third, but was suppressed in May, 1528, by a bull of pope Clement.

At SLEVESHOLM, in the parish of Methwold, William, earl Warren, about the year 1222, placed a prior and some Cluniac monks; and here was also a cell or hospital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and subordinate to Castle-acre.

At NEWBRIDGE, north-east of Methwold, was a chapel dedicated to St. Mary and St. Laurence, with a small religious house adjoining, in which, about the year 1373, lived a master and brethren lepers; but afterwards, about the year 1449, a master, wardens and friars hermites. At length it became so decayed, that, at the dissolution, it was valued as a free chapel, at only 3 l. 7 s. 6 d. per annum.

Besides the great men already mentioned in treating of the towns of this county, it has produced the following.

John Baconthorp, surnamed the Resolute Doctor, and one of the most learned men of his time,

was

was born, about the latter end of the seventeenth century, at Baconthorp, an obscure village in Norfolk, from which he took his name. In his youth he was a monk in the convent of Blackney; and afterwards became provincial of the English Carmelites. He was esteemed the head of the Averroists, the followers of the philosopher Averroës. Of his works, which were numerous, some were published, and others never saw the light. He died at London in the year 1346.

Sir Richard Gresham, father of the famous Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of Gresham college, and himself a very eminent merchant, was the son of John Gresham of Holt, in the county of Norfolk, Esq; He entered early into trade, and carried it on with such uncommon success, that he soon acquired a very plentiful fortune. He was chosen sheriff of London in 1531, when he received the honour of knighthood from king Henry the Eighth; and, about six years after, discharged the important office of lord mayor of that city. It was he that first projected the scheme, which was afterwards so happily executed by his son, of building the Royal Exchange. He died at his house at Bethnal green near London, February the 21st, 1548.

Sir John Gresham, brother to Sir Richard above-mentioned, a very eminent merchant, and a munificent patron of learning, was born at his father's seat of Holt in the county of Norfolk. During his brother's mayoralty in 1537, he served the honourable office of sheriff of London, and received the honour of knighthood; and in 1546, was chosen lord mayor of that city. He founded the free-school of Holt, endowed it with the manor of Holt-Hales, and vested the government of it in the worshipful company of fishmongers

gers in London. He died on the 23d of October, 1556, and was interred in the church of St. Michael Bassishaw.

John Aylmer, bishop of London in the sixteenth century, was born, of honourable parents, at Aylmer-hall, in the county of Norfolk, in the year 1521. After finishing his studies at Cambridge, he was admitted into the family of Henry Gray, marquis of Dorset, afterwards duke of Suffolk, where he had the honour to instruct, in the Greek and Latin languages, that excellent lady, Jane Gray, sometimes stiled queen Jane. By the interest of this nobleman, he obtained the archdeaconry of Stow, in the diocese of Lincoln; the profits of which, however, he did not enjoy during the reign of queen Mary, when he thought proper to retire beyond seas; but returning to his native country, on the accession of queen Elizabeth, he was promoted, first to the archdeaconry of Lincoln, and afterwards to the see of London, which he enjoyed till his death. He seems to have been a man of learning and integrity, but of a warm and passionate temper, which exposed him to many difficulties; for he was almost always engaged in a quarrel either with the clergy or laity of his diocese. He wrote an answer to a book of the famous John Knox, intitled, *the First Blast against the Monstrous Regimen and Empire of Women*. He died on the 3d of June, 1594, and was interred in his own cathedral of St. Paul.

Sir Edward Coke, the great oracle of the law, and lord chief justice of the King's-bench in the reign of king James the First, was the son of Robert Coke, Esq; of Mileham in the county of Norfolk, and born at his father's seat in the year 1550. He received his education at the free-school of Norwich, and at Trinity-college in Cambridge, whence he removed to Clifford's Inn
London,

London, and was entered a student of the Inner Temple. He had not been long in this last place before he gave a proof of his extraordinary abilities ; for a case relating to the cook of the Temple, which had puzzled all the lawyers, was stated by him in such a masterly manner, as attracted the admiration of the whole bench of judges. It was probably on account of this proof of his abilities, that he was called to the bar, when but of six years standing ; and having married a wife with a very large fortune, he was soon advanced to the most considerable dignities. The cities of Norwich and Coventry chose him their recorder ; the county of Norfolk elected him one of their representatives ; and the House of Commons made him their speaker in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of queen Elizabeth. That princess appointed him her solicitor-general in 1592, and her attorney-general the year following. In May, 1603, he was knighted by king James the First, and in November of the same year he managed the trial against Sir Walter Raleigh, whom, it must be confessed, however little to his honour, he treated with a scurrility of language, which can by no means be justified ; calling him, with a virulence almost beyond example, traitor, monster, viper, and spider of hell. In 1606 he was appointed lord chief justice of the Common-Pleas ; and, in 1613, lord chief justice of the King's-Bench, and a member of the privy-council : but happening to give offence to the court, partly by a dispute which he had with the lord chancellor Egerton, concerning the jurisdiction of their respective courts, partly by his too eager prosecution of the murderers of Sir Thomas Overbury, and partly by an opinion he had delivered with regard to the king's power in ecclesiastical affairs ;

he was not only removed from his office in 1616, but was, some time after, thrown into the Tower. Upon the calling of a new parliament in 1625, the ministry, to prevent his being chosen a member, took care to have him appointed sheriff of Buckinghamshire; but he found means to procure a seat in the parliament which met in 1628, and acted in it with his usual spirit and vigour. He spoke warmly for the redress of grievances, argued boldly for the liberty of the subject, and strenuously supported the privileges of the House of Commons; and in this parliament it was that he did his country the greatest service, which not only himself, but perhaps any other subject ever performed; I mean his framing the Petition of Rights, that great bulwark of the English constitution. By this, however, and several other steps, he again drew upon himself the resentment of the ministry; for, by an order of council, his papers were seized, and even his last will, while he lay upon his death bed. He expired at his house at Stoke-Pogey's in Buckinghamshire, September the 3d, 1634, aged eighty-six. He was always at variance with the great Sir Francis Bacon, whom he seems to have excelled as much in the knowledge of the law, as the other did him in all the branches of polite literature. It must, at the same time, be remarked, to his credit, that in his numerous contests with his different adversaries, he generally came off, if not with honour, at least with safety; so that king James had reason to say of him, *that which ever way he was thrown he would fall upon his feet*. His works are well known and greatly esteemed, particularly *his Reports*, and *his Institutes of the Laws of England*.

Sir Henry Spelman, an eminent antiquary in the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century, was descended of an ancient and honourable family, and born, in the year 1562, at Congham, a small village near Lynnh-Regis in Norfolk. He had his education in Trinity college, Cambridge, where, however, he continued not above two years and a half. Thence removing, upon the death of his father, to Lincoln's Inn, London, he applied himself diligently to the study of the law; but confined his attention chiefly to the more liberal parts of that science. Soon after he returned to his native country, where he possessed in his own right, and in that of his wife, a considerable estate; and settling as a country-gentleman and farmer, divided his time equally between study and business. In 1606, he was appointed high sheriff of Norfolk; and about three years after was named one of the commissioners for determining the disputed titles to lands and manors in Ireland. At about the fiftieth year of his age he returned to London, where he continued to reside during the remaining part of his life; and this he employed, with unwearied application, in preparing for the press, those many learned works, which he had already begun, and, in some measure, compleated. In compliment to his merit, which was universally allowed, king Charles the First offered him the mastership of Sutton's hospital; but this, as he was now old, and in tolerable good circumstances, he thought proper to decline, though with many expressions of gratitude. He died in the year 1641, and was interred in Westminster-abbey. His works are numerous, and all of them valuable in their kind. The principal are, *Aspilogia*, a Discourse concerning those marks of honour, now called *Arms*: *De non temerandis Ecclesiis*: *De Sepulturâ*, or *Of*

Burial fees : the History of the English councils : A Treatise concerning tythes ; another concerning Tenures : but his most capital performance, and that by which he is best known, is his *Glossary*, a work replete with the most profound erudition.

Sir Cloudesley Shovel, a gallant sea-officer in the end of the last, and beginning of the present century, was born of obscure parents at a small town near Clay in Norfolk, in the year 1650. He was first bound apprentice to a shoemaker ; but his high spirit disdaining such a mean employment, he soon after left it, and went to sea as cabin boy to the famous Sir John Narborough. By this gentleman he was promoted, for his bravery, to the rank of lieutenant ; and rising gradually by the force of merit, through the inferior commissions of captain, commodore, and vice-admiral, he was at last advanced to be rear-admiral of England, and admiral and commander in chief of the fleet. From the time of his entering into the service, to that of his death, he had a capital share in all the naval battles that were fought by the English. He distinguished himself particularly before Algiers, in Dublin-bay, in the battle of La Hogue, in the reduction of Gibraltar, in the action at Malaga, and at the siege of Toulon ; but, in his return from this last enterprize, his ship, *the Association*, unhappily striking on the rocks, called *the Bishop and his Clerks*, was instantly shipwrecked, and himself, and all his crew amounting to nine hundred men, perished in the ocean. This unfortunate event happened October the 22d, 1707. The admiral's body being thrown ashore on one of the Scilly islands, was stripped by some fishermen and buried in the sand ; but it was afterwards taken up and removed to London, where after lying some time in state, it was interred with great funeral pomp, in Westminster-

minster-abbey, and a monument was erected to his memory, by the exprefs appointment of her majesty queen Anne.

Robert Brady, a noted historian and phyfician of the feventeenth century, was born in the county of Norfolk, and educated in Caius-college in Cambridge, where he took his degrees. He was fucceffively keeper of the records in the Tower of London, Regius profeflor of phyfic in the univerfity of Cambridge, and phyfician in ordinary to king James the Second. He is chiefly known for his *Compleat History of England from the firft entrance of the Romans, unto the end of the reign of king Richard the Second*, in three vols. fol. He died on the 19th of Auguft, 1700.

John Pearfon, a learned divine, and bifhop of Chefter in the feventeenth century, was the fon of Mr. Robert Pearfon, rector of Creake and Snoring in Norfolk, and born at this laft place February the 28th, 1613. After finifhing his education at Eton and Cambridge, he entered into orders, and was collated to the prebend of Netherhaven in the church of Sarum. In 1640, he became chaplain to the lord keeper Finch; and, about three years after, was appointed minifter of St. Clement's Eaft-Cheap in London. In 1657 he and Mr. Gunning, maintained a difpute with two Roman Catholic priefts, concerning the nature of fchifm: a falfe and fpurious account of which was afterwards printed at Paris. Upon the reftoration he was created doctör in divinity, and installed archdeacon of Surrey; and rifing gradually through other preferments, he was at laft advanced to the bifhopric of Chefter. This he enjoyed above thirteen years, and dying July the 16th, 1686, was interred in his own cathedral. Befides his *Exposition of the Creed*, which is well known, he

wrote a vindication of St. Ignatius's epistles, and some other tracts.

Sir Roger L'Estrange, a well known writer in the seventeenth century, was the son of Sir Hammond L'Estrange, and born at Hunstanton in this county, December the 17th, 1616. Upon the breaking out of the civil war, he espoused the royal cause, for which he was a remarkable sufferer, and was once in the most imminent danger of losing his life; for having, in 1654, obtained a commission of his majesty for surprizing Lynn in Norfolk, then in the possession of the parliament, his design was discovered by two of his associates; and he was accordingly seized, conducted to London, and tried by a court martial, who condemned him to suffer death; but he was afterwards reprieved, and continued in Newgate for upwards of three years. Escaping thence in 1648, he retired beyond seas; and returning to England about five years after, he applied to Oliver Cromwell, before whom, having once happened to play on a bass-viol, he was from that circumstance nicknamed *Oliver's Fidler*. Being naturally a man of lively parts, and of a fluent style, he begun, soon after the restoration, to establish a news-paper, called, *the Public Intelligencer and the News*; but this was laid down to make room for the London Gazette, the first paper of which appeared on the 4th of February, 1666. Mr. L'Estrange, however, by way of compensation, was appointed Licenser of the Press; a post, at that time, of some trust and profit. He afterwards wrote a periodical paper, called *the Observer*, in defence of the government; and, upon the accession of king James the Second to the throne, he was advanced to the honour of knighthood. After the revolution he met with some trouble on account of his attachment to the abdicated prince; but he
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was suffered, nevertheless, to go to the grave in peace. He died December the 11th, 1704, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. His original compositions are but little esteemed; his translations are better known; particularly his *Seneca's Morals*, and *Æsop's Fables*.

Thomas Shadwell, poet laureat to king William the Third and queen Mary, was descended of an ancient family in Staffordshire, and born at Lanton-hall in Norfolk in the year 1640. Having compleated his education at Caius-college, Cambridge, he removed to the Middle Temple, London, where he applied himself to the study of the law; but he had not spent much time in this laborious occupation, when he set out on his travels; and, upon his return to England, he fell into the acquaintance of the most celebrated wits of the age. Being naturally possessed of a good taste, and some genius, he resolved to cultivate the favour of the muses, and, in 1668, his comedy, called, *the Sullen Lovers*, or *the Impertinents*, made its appearance. From this time forwards, he continued to advance in reputation till after the revolution, when he was appointed poet laureat and historiographer to their majesties, in the room of Mr. Dryden. These honourable employments he enjoyed till his death, which happened in Nov. 1692, in the fifty-second year of his age. Besides the play above-mentioned, he wrote sixteen others, among which were *the Humourists*, *the Virtuoso*, *the Squire of Alsatia*, &c. He likewise wrote several poems. An edition of his works in four volumes 8vo, was published in 1720. Mr. Dryden treats him with great severity in his satire, called *Mac-Flecknoe*.

Thomas Herring, archbishop of Canterbury, was the son of the reverend Mr. John Herring, rector of Walsoken in Norfolk; and was born at

that place in the year 1693. He had his education at the school of Wisbech in the Isle of Ely, and at Jesus college in Cambridge. In 1717 he commenced master of arts, and entering into holy orders, became successively chaplain to Dr. Fleetwood, then bishop of Ely, rector of Rettingdon in Essex, of Barley in Hertfordshire, and of All-hallows the Great in London; preacher to the society in Lincoln's Inn, chaplain to the king, dean of Rochester, and in 1737 was advanced to the bishopric of Bangor. In 1743 he was translated to the archiepiscopal see of York. Here, during the rebellion in 1745, he distinguished himself remarkably by his loyalty and activity. He formed an association of the nobility, gentry, and clergy of the county, to defend the government, and oppose the rebels. His merit, by this, and several other means, was rendered so conspicuous, that, upon the death of archbishop Potter in 1747, he was translated to the see of Canterbury. This high dignity he enjoyed about six years, and dying in 1753, was interred privately, according to his own desire, in Croyden-church. He was distinguished as an excellent preacher, and his sermons were published, in 1763, in two volumes, 8vo.

Humphry Hody, a learned divine in the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century, was born January the 1st, 1659, at Odcombe in this county, and educated at Wadham-college in Oxford, of which he was chosen a fellow. He afterwards became chaplain to Dr. Stillingfleet, bishop of Worcester, and then to Dr. Tillotson, archbishop of Canterbury, as also to Dr. Tennison, his successor. By the interest of this last prelate, he was advanced successively to the united rectories of St. Michael-Royal and St. Martin's Vintrey in London, to the rectory of Monks-Risborough in Buckinghamshire, and to
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the archdeaconry of Oxford. He was likewise elected professor of Greek in that university, where he founded in Wadham-college ten scholarships; five for the study of the Hebrew, and five for the study of the Greek language. He died January 20, 1706, and was buried in the chapel of the college, to which he had been a benefactor. He wrote a dissertation against Aristeas's history of the seventy interpreters; a discourse of the original text and translations of the Bible; and an account of those learned Grecians, who retired into Italy before and after the taking of Constantinople by the Turks.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE took its name from Northampton the county town. It is seated in about the middle of England, and extending in a long narrow tract to the north-east, borders on more counties than any other in this part of Britain. On the east it is bounded by Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire; on the south by part of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire; on the west by Oxfordshire and Warwickshire, and on the north by Leicestershire, Rutlandshire and Lincolnshire. Extending in length from the south-west to the north-east fifty-five miles, and in the broadest part from east to west twenty-six miles, and is one hundred and twenty-five miles in circumference.

In the time of the Romans this county made a part of the territory inhabited by the Coritani, and under the Saxons it belonged to the kingdom of Mercia. There are Roman remains in several parts of the county, as camps, foundations of buildings, and Roman urns, coins, and many other antiquities. Likewise there are two Roman roads which cross it, the one where it is broadest, and the other where it is narrowest. The first is generally allowed to be Watling-street, and the other only a vicinal way. However, it must have been a road of some consequence, because it branches out into two, before it

it leaves the county, the one road running north-east, and the other north. The traces of many houses and villas are to be found upon the military way, that were used by the Romans for pleasure or retirement.

This county is watered by several rivers, the principal of which are the Nen, the Welland, the Ouse, the Leam, and the Charwell. The Nen, the Leam and Charwell, have their sources on one hill, near Cotesby and Herridon, on the south-west of Daventry. The Nen, the most considerable of these rivers, runs almost due east, till having passed the town of Northampton, it by various windings directs its course north-east, and traversing the whole length of the county, separates Cambridgeshire from Lincolnshire, and after receiving three large rivulets in its way, called Ire-brook, Harper-brook, and Willow-brook, besides a multitude of smaller streams, falls into a bay of the German ocean, called the Washes or Lyn-Deep. The Leam, which directs its course westward into Warwickshire, and the Charwell, which flows to the southward into Oxfordshire, will be described in those counties. The Welland rises in the hundred of Rothwell, near a village named Howthorp, on the western borders of this county, and running north-east passes by Harborough in Leicestershire, Rockingham in this county, and Stamford, where it begins to be navigable; and from thence passes on to Spalding, when having thus divided this county from Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, and Lincolnshire, it falls into the Nen to the north-east of Peterborough. The Ouse rises near Brackley in this county, and rises from a spring called Ouse-Well, in the hundred of Sutton, then running north-east through the counties of Buckingham, Bedford,

ford, Cambridge and Norfolk, falls into Lyn-Deeps.

These rivers supply the county with plenty of fresh water fish, such as perch, roach, dace, gudgeons, eels, chubs, and pikes. There are some fish that are not very common, such as that called the Shallors, found in the river Charwell, the bed-eel in the Nen, as also the burbot and the ruff. Now and then there are sturgeon, salmon, smelts, and lampreys, that proceed from the sea, but these are not very common.

There are but few medicinal springs in this county, one of which is at King's-cliff, eight miles south of Stamford, which both smells and tastes of iron. It will let fall a white sediment with oil of tartar; and with galls it precipitates a purple sediment; but turns of an opake red with logwood, and of a deep green with syrup of violets. A gallon yields a hundred and forty grains of sediment, seventy-five of which are limestone and oker, and sixty-five a calcarious nitre. From various experiments it appears, that this water is of a chalybeate, laxative nature, impregnated with iron and calcarious nitre, with a small quantity of sea salt, and a earthy substance. It will not purge a strong person, unless he drinks from three to five quarts; but it has been used with great success, in disorders from obstructions, and in eruptions of the skin; it has also cured several lame persons.

Astrop wells have been lately in great esteem; this mineral water is a brisk, spirituous, clear, and well-tasted chalybeate. It lets fall a white sediment with oil of tartar; and a gallon after evaporation yields seventeen grains of sediment, containing nitre and calcarious earth. Drank at the fountain head, it is a certain cure for all female obstructions, and in the first and second stages.

stages of consumptions. It seldom fails in the jaundice, and beginning of a dropsy; and it restores a constitution weakened by hard drinking; the dose is very large, that is, from three quarts to five in the forenoon. Some affirm it will cure madness and melancholy.

In the parish of King's-Sutton, four miles south by east of Banbury in Oxfordshire, is a mineral spring, that has an intolerable strong smell like rotten eggs; but the taste is saltish, warm and pungent, like salt of tartar. A gallon yields a hundred and sixty-six grains of sediment, of which nine are earth, and the rest salt, of a pungent, brackish, and bitter taste, with all the characteristics of an alkali. It is a purging water, strongly impregnated with sulphur, and an alkaline salt mixed with sea-salt. It is famous for discharging and healing of tumours, ulcers, and all diseases of the skin.

The new well at Northampton was discovered in 1703; it is at a small distance from the town, and appears to have been very successful in curing the gravel. There are several other springs, that in the Popish times had the name of holy wells; but though the waters are exceeding good, they are not famous for any particular virtues.

The air of Northamptonshire is so pure and healthy, that there are here more seats of the nobility and gentry than in any other county of the same extent in England. There is, however, a small tract of country called Fenland, to the north-east of Peterborough, where there is fenny land, which joins to the great fens of Cambridge-shire and Lincolnshire; however, this part is not so unwholesome as formerly, the marshes and watery grounds having been drained, and in a great measure converted into firm land.

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There are several sorts of earths under the surface of the ground, which prove to be good manures for poor land, or such as is worn out. Among these are the marley earth at Adstou, the clayey earth at Desborough, the slatty clay at East Farndon, and a soft white earth at Chadstone, and Wood Newton. There are other earths proper for mechanical uses; as loams of divers sorts, at Thorp and elsewhere, for bell-founders; penny-earth in many places, which makes floors as hard and lasting as plaster of Paris; it also serves to make comb-pots, for the combers of jersey. There is likewise lamb-earth, with which they make earthen floors, at Lilford and other places. There is clay fit to make bricks, at East-Farndon and Kettering; tobacco-pipe clay in the eastern part of Northampton field, and potters earth at Oakely barn. There are yellow and purple okers at Thingdon, and of other kinds near Kettering; as also red oker at Clipston. The pipe clay is accounted as good for medicinal uses, as the sealed earth that was formerly brought from the islands of the Archipelago. The purple oker at Thingdon is as astringent as bole-armoniack; and the white earth of Chadston is as good as ceruse for excoriations. They have a great deal of stone fit for building and other uses, in several places, and lime-stone at Easton near Stamford, which, when burnt, makes very good lime. Near Calliweston the inhabitants dig up slates for covering houses. This county also produces salt-petre. The rag-stone is so fine, that it is little inferior to marble, and is got out of Welden quarry.

This is a fine sporting country, and abounds with woods, lawns, fields, meadows, chafes, parks and gardens. It is in general a champain country, fit both for tillage and pasture, and is fruitful

ful both in corn and grafs; but it having no coal-pits, fuel is scarce, few of its rivers being navigable. It is generally said, that wood is very scarce in this county, which is somewhat surprizing, considering there are such large forests; for Rockingham forest is fourteen miles long, and five broad. Sacy forest is a mile and a half long, and a mile broad; and Whittlebury forest is in some places nine miles long, and three broad, though not so much in others. Besides these, there is wood in chases and parks, and about the towns and villages, and therefore it cannot be so excessively dear, any where as at Northampton, where travellers always complain of the great price of firing, when they make any stay at that town. In some places, instead of coals and wood, they use peat or turf for firing; which is dug up in the fens in the eastern part of the county, where it is in some places six feet deep, and in others scarcely one.

The cattle of this county are much the same as in other parts, but sheep are in greater plenty, and yet all the profit they make of their wool is, in general, selling it into other counties, where the clothing trade is carried on. The inhabitants have, however, in some few places, set up woollen manufactories, particularly at Kettering, where they make serges, tammies and shalloons, whereby many are employed in combing and spinning the wool, as well as in weaving and dressing the stuffs. Sir Matthew Dudley likewise, many years ago, set up such manufactures at Oundle, to the great advantage of that town and neighbourhood. In this county are also made great numbers of boots and shoes, many of which are sent up to London, and exported to our plantations in America.

Among

Among the scarce plants that grow wild in Northamptonshire, are the following.

Common eryngo, *Eryngium vulgare*, J. B. *vulgare et Camerarii*, C. B. Not far from Daventry, by the side of the old Roman way called Watling-street, near a village named Brookhall.

Hollow-leaved gentian, or rather sopewort, *Gentiana concava*, Ger. *Saponaria concava Anglica*, C. B. This was first found in a small grove of a wood, called the Spinney, near Lichbarrow.

Mountain-cudweed, or catsfoot, *Gnaphalium montanum sive pes cati*, Park. On Bernake heath, not far from Stamford.

Common pasque-flower, *Pulsatilla Anglica purpurea*, Park. *parad. flore clauso caeruleo*, J. B. On the same heath, in great plenty.

Hooded water-milfoil, *Millefolium palustre flore luteo galericulato*. In the ditches by the river's side, as you go from Peterborough to Thorp.

This county is divided into twenty hundreds, and contains the city of Peterborough, and eleven market towns, viz. Brackley, Daventry, Higham-Ferrers, Kettering, Northampton, Oundle, Rockingham, Thrapston, Towcester, and Wellingborough. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Peterborough, and has three hundred and thirty parishes. It sends nine members to parliament, that is, two knights of the shire for the county, two citizens for Peterborough, two burgesses for Northampton, two for Brackley, and one for Higham-Ferrers.

We shall enter this county by the London road, which leads from Newport-Pagnell to Northampton.

NORTHAMPTON, the chief town in the county, to which it gives name, was, according to Camden, so called from its northern situation on the

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the river Nen, upon whose banks it is seated, and where another river named North Fandon, falls into it on the western side of the town: others maintain, that it was anciently called Hamtun in the Saxon annals, and that north was prefixed to it soon after the conquest, to distinguish it from Southampton, which was also before that time only known by the name of Hamtun. It is seated sixty-six miles north-west of London, and appears to have been an obscure place till after the conquest; yet it is thought to have been very ancient, though no mention is made of it during the Saxon heptarchy; but Henry of Huntington observes, that it was burnt down to the ground by the Danes: yet was soon after rebuilt by the assistance of king Canute; and we find in Domesday-book, that in the reign of Edward the Confessor, there were in this town sixty burgeses, who had as many mansions here. It has sent members to parliament ever since the reign of Edward the First, and as it lies in the heart of the kingdom, several parliaments have been held there. The barons began their rebellion against king Henry the Third in this town, and that prince took it by assault. About the end of that reign some discontented scholars retired thither from Oxford and Cambridge, and, with the king's leave, prosecuted their studies, during three years, and formed a college here, so that there appeared to be an university in Northampton, till this society was suppressed, by a special prohibition, as being injurious to both universities.

Leland observes, that in his time it was encompassed with a wall, and had four gates, named East, West, North and South Gate; but that the East Gate was the handsomest of them all. It had then a castle, which stood near the West Gate, and had a large keep. There were also
seven

seven parish churches within the walls, of which Allhallows was the principal, and stood in the heart of the town. In the suburbs were two parish churches; thus this town had nine churches, besides St. Catharine's chapel, which stood in a church-yard within the walls, and the ruins of a large chapel without the North Gate. Besides these churches, there were here many religious foundations: the priory of St. Andrew for Black friars stood in the north part of the town near the North Gate: it was founded in the reign of William the Conqueror, by Simon Seinliz, the first earl of Huntingdon, and Maud his wife. Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, confirmed the churches and tythes given to this priory, and Henry the First, added his royal assent to that confirmation, and granted the monks many liberties and franchises. This priory, which was for Cluniac monks, had been subordinate to the foreign abbey of St. Mary de Caritate, but had been made denizen in the sixth of Henry the Fourth, and afterwards, at its dissolution, its revenue was valued by Speed at 334 l. a year; but by Dugdale at 263 l. In the west part of the town was an abbey of Black canons dedicated to St. James, built by William Peverell, natural son to William the Conqueror, before the year 1112, which was valued at the dissolution at 175 l. 8 s. 2 d. a year. Within the walls of the town, a little above the South Gate, was an hospital dedicated to St. John Baptist, for poor and infirm persons, founded by Walter, archdeacon of Northampton, about the year 1137, and rated at the suppression at 25 l. 6 s. 2 d. per annum. The friars minors had hired an habitation in the parish of St. Giles in 1224, but afterwards fixed northward of the market place, upon ground given them by the town. This house was valued at the suppression at 6 l.

17 s. 4 d. a year. In the horse-market was a priory of friars preachers, before the year 1240, to which John Dabington was either a founder, or a considerable benefactor, which at the dissolution was valued at 5 l. 7 s. 10 d. a year. St. Mary's was a priory of Carmelite friars, founded and endowed by Simon Montfort, earl of Leicester, in the year 1271: it was seated within the walls, and was valued at the dissolution at 10 l. 10 s. a year. A house of Black friars was in the street where a horse-market was kept once a week, and was endowed with great privileges: it had but few benefactors, and at the time of the dissolution was valued only at 5 l. a year. In Brigg-street, near the South Gate, John Longville, in 1322, gave a messuage, with the appurtenances, for a chapel and priory of Augustine friars. On the south side of the town was an hospital dedicated to St. Leonard, for a master and leprous brethren, before the year 1240. There was also a college belonging to the church of All-Saints, which was valued at the dissolution at 2 l. 13 s. 4 d. a year. An hospital, near the West Gate, was founded by the citizens about the year 1450; and without the walls of the town was the abbey de la Pre for Cluniac nuns, founded in the reign of king Stephen, by Simon Seinliz, the second earl of Northampton, and dedicated to St. Mary. At the time of the suppression here were ten nuns, when the revenue of the house amounted to 119 l. 9 s. 7 d. a year.

The walls, gates, and religious houses, though standing in the time of Leland, who died in the year 1552, are now entirely demolished; but on the west side of the town are still to be seen the ruins of the castle.

On the third of September, 1695, Northampton was burnt town; but was soon rebuilt in a regular, and more handsome manner, and is now a very neat agreeable town. Of the above churches only four remain, Allhallows, St. Giles's, St. Sepulchre's, and St. Peter's, the largest of which, called Allhallows, or All-Saints, stands in the center of the town, at the meeting of four spacious streets. It has a dome, and a noble portico, with eight lofty columns of the Ionic order, erected at the expence of king Charles the Second. The top is encompassed with a balustrade, adorned with vases, and a statue of the above prince. Here is the town and county hall, which last is a magnificent stone building, adorned with columns and pilasters of the Corinthian order; and the market-place is so regular and spacious, as to be accounted one of the finest in England, the buildings being neat, uniform, and of a considerable height. Here are also a county jail, three hospitals, and an inn, called George-Inn, the building of which cost 2000 l. and was given by John Dryden, Esq; towards the endowment of a charity-school, for thirty boys and ten girls. The town has two bridges over the Nen, which has been made navigable for lighters, by which means coals are brought by water to the town. It has a market on Saturdays, which is esteemed the most considerable horse-market in the kingdom; for being situated between York and London, it is the rendezvous for the jockies of both places. Its fairs are held on February 20, for horses, horned cattle and toys; on April 5, May 4, and August 5, which are all great horse-fairs; on August 26, for all sorts of merchandize; on September 19, chiefly for cheese and sheep; on November 28, and December 19, for all sorts of cattle. On a neighbouring

bouring down, called Pye-Leys, are frequent horse-races, and about the town are a great number of cherry-gardens.

Robert Browne, an English divine, and the founder of the sect called Brownists, was descended of an ancient and honourable family, and born in the town of Northampton. He had his education in the university of Cambridge, and afterwards became a schoolmaster in the borough of Southwark. In 1580, he began to promulgate his peculiar doctrines, for which he was thrown into prison; but being a near relation of the lord treasurer Burleigh, he was soon set at liberty. He then went over to the Low Countries, and settled at Middleburgh in Zealand, where he published a book, entitled, *A Treatise of Reformation without staying for any Man*. Coming back to England about the year 1585, he resumed his former task of propagating his tenets; but being excommunicated by the bishop of Peterborough, he thought proper to return into the bosom of the church; and even to accept of a benefice in it. Being thrown, for an assault upon the constable of the parish, into Northampton goal, when above eighty years of age, he there sickened, and died in 1630; declaring, on his death-bed, *that he had been committed to thirty-two prisons, in some of which he could not see his hand at noon-day*.

James Hervey, the celebrated author of the *Meditations among the Tombs*, was the son of a clergyman, and born on the 26th of February, 1714, at Hardingstone near Northampton. He received his education at the grammar-school of that town, and at Lincoln-college, Oxford. Having finished his studies, and taken the degree of arts, he became curate to his father, who was then possessed of the living of Weston-Favell, near Northampton. He afterwards served as curate in
two

two other parishes; and upon the death of his father in 1752, he succeeded him in the livings of Weston-Favell and Collingtree. He seemed to be naturally of a delicate constitution, which he weakened still more by his application to his studies; and having been, for some time, afflicted with a cramp and a hectic cough, he was seized with his last illness in December 1758, and expired on Christmas-day of that year, aged forty-four. Besides his *Meditations among the Tombs*, he wrote *Reflections on a Flower Garden*, a *Def-cant on Creation*, *Contemplations on the Night and Starry Heavens*, *Theron and Aspacia*, &c.

Within about half a mile of the town of Northampton is one of the crosses erected by king Edward the First, in memory of Eleanor his queen, whose corps was rested here; in its way to Westminster; and at a small distance to the north of the cross, several Roman coins have been dug up.

At COGENHOO, about five miles to the eastward of Northampton, have been dug up a Roman urn, covered with a flat stone, containing a mixture of ashes and earth; and in the same field several Roman coins have been found, one of which had a head of Faustina.

At LITTLE BILLING near Northampton, was a Cistercian priory, built by William the Conqueror, and dedicated to St. Augustine, but was only a cell to the priory of St. Andrew at Northampton. Thomas Sorrell gave to this house several gifts, which were confirmed by king Henry the First. In the sixteenth year of Edward the Third, 1322, John de Longavile enlarged this priory; and besides repairing, gave several lands for maintaining the same. It was lately in the possession of William Thursby, Esq;

Five miles to the west of Northampton is ALTHORP, a noble seat, belonging to the family of the



The South View of Holdenby Palace, in the County of Northampton.

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the Spencers. It was built by Robert, earl of Sunderland, in the midst of a delightful park, laid out and planted after the manner of that at Greenwich. There is here a noble piece of water, in which is a fine Venetian gondola. The house is particularly remarkable for a magnificent gallery, furnished with curious paintings by the greatest masters.

At KINDSTHORP near Northampton, an hospital was erected for the reception of pilgrims, and poor indigent and sickly persons, by the prior and convent of St. Andrews in Northampton. They were to be under the care of a procurator, two chaplains, and six lay-brothers. In this house there were two chapels, one dedicated to the Trinity, and the other to St. David. The revenues of this hospital were valued at the suppression at 32 l. 4 s. 5 d. per annum.

Six miles south-west of Northampton is HOLDENBY-PALACE, which was built by Sir Christopher Hatton, lord high chancellor of England, privy counsellor to queen Elizabeth, and knight of the garter. It is situated on a pleasant hill, commanding a delightful prospect, and called Holdenby House, in remembrance of his great grandmother, heiress of that ancient family the Holdenbys: but Sir Christopher dying unmarried, left Sir William Newport, knight, his sister's son, his heir, who, in default of male issue, gave his estate to Sir Christopher Hatton, his godson, and nearest kinsman; afterwards it became a palace to king Charles the First; and when he was delivered to the parliament, he was three months kept prisoner there. This palace was in the possession of her grace the late dutchess dowager of Marlborough, and its remains, of which we have given a view, shew that it was a very magnificent structure.

At

At Northampton all the principal roads in the county meet. The only towns of any consideration in this county, to the south of Northampton, are Towcester and Brackley.

TOWCESTER is seated about nine miles to the south of Northampton, and was thought by Camden to be the Tripontium of Antoninus, but some later authors place that station at Rugby, and others at Dowbridge. It is, however, certainly built upon the Roman military highway, called Watling-street, which is visible in several places between this town and Stony-Stratford. Most antiquaries are of opinion, that it was a Roman station, though not one of those mentioned in the Itinerary; because Roman coins have, at different times, been dug up there. In the Saxon times Towcester was so well fortified, that the Danes were not able to take it. Afterwards, Edward the Elder, surrounded it with a stone wall, which is now entirely demolished. It probably received its name from the Tove, a small stream, which is also sometimes called the Wedon, which almost surrounds it, and the word cester, which signifies a fort or town. It is sixty-one miles north-west of London, and seven north-west of Stony-Stratford, and is a handsome populous town, in the great road from London to Chester, on which account it has several good inns. The inhabitants are employed in making bone-lace. It has a good market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, held on the 12th of May, and the 29th of October, for all sorts of cattle and merchandize. Here was an hospital dedicated to St. Leonard before the year 1240.

Edward Bernard, a learned astronomer, linguist, and critic, of the seventeenth century, was born on the 12th of May, 1638, at Perry St. Paul, commonly called Pauler's Perry, near Towcester,
and

and educated, first at Merchant-taylor's-school, London, and afterwards at St. John's college in Oxford, where, in 1673, he was chosen Savilian professor of Astronomy upon the resignation of Sir Christopher Wren. This important place he had not held above three years, when, at the recommendation of the earl of Arlington, he was sent to France by king Charles the second, in order to be tutor to the dukes of Grafton and Northumberland, natural sons of that prince by Barbara Villiers, dutchess of Cleveland, who then resided with her children at Paris. Here, however, he did not long continue; for the gravity of his temper not suiting the gaiety of the dutchess's family, he returned to England in less than a twelvemonth. From this time forward he discharged his duty as professor till 1691, when being presented to the rich rectory of Brightwell in Berkshire, he resigned his chair in favour of Mr. David Gregory, professor of mathematics at Edinburgh. Towards the latter end of his life he was afflicted with the stone; and falling into a consumption, attended with a dysentery, he died at Oxford January the 12th, 1697, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He wrote and published a great number of books in several branches of learning; particularly in mathematics, astronomy, philology, &c.

At EAST NESTON, a little to the north-east of Towcester, is a villa belonging to the earl of Pomfret. This is a stately building, designed by Inigo Jones, and is pleasantly seated amidst plantations of wood, vistas, and delightful prospects. On the back front beyond the garden is a large canal, and the meadows through which the river winds its stream, lie open to the view of the house. Here was a magnificent collection of Greek, Roman, and Egyptian statues of white

marble, being the most ornamental part of the *Marmora Arondeliana*, which were lately presented by the countess dowager of Pomfret, to the university of Oxford. The hall is a fine lofty room, and the great staircase is painted in fresco, by Sir James Thornhill.

At **WEEDEN PINKNEY**, on the west side of Towcester, was a Benedictine priory, dedicated to St. Mary, which was a cell to St. Lucian near Beauvois in France, as early as the reign of Henry the First.

CHIPPING-WARDEN, a village six miles west of Towcester, is a place of great antiquity, and had formerly a market. The inhabitants have a tradition, that the old town of that name stood a quarter of a mile distant, at a place, called the Black-ground, and that it was entirely consumed by fire. But be that as it will, the plough often discovers foundations of houses, and hewn stones for building, with pieces of Roman coin. At the north end of the town is a vallum, called *Wallow-bank*, supposed to be raised against a western enemy. It is a rampart of earth, resembling a high wall, pointing northwards, directly towards *Aston* in the wall, but there is now only a small part of it remaining, about twenty-four paces in length. It has a narrow ridge, and on the western side is almost perpendicular. From the foot to the ridge is nine paces, and there can be no doubt of its having reached as far as *Aston* in the wall, which the name plainly shews; and that it was a Roman work, appears from its form, and the Roman coins found about it.

Near it is **EDGECOTT**, or **EDGECOTE**, a village seated upon *Dane's-moor*, which is a spacious valley, in which two bloody battles have been fought; one by a party of the Danes and an army of Saxons, who united to oppose their depredations;

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ons; the other by the Lancastrian party, commanded by Sir John Conyers, and Robert Hiliard, against the followers of Edward the Fourth, commanded by William Herbert, earl of Pembroke, when five thousand of the king's forces were slain, and the earl himself, together with Sir Richard Herbert his brother, Richard Widville, earl of Rivers, and John his brother, were taken prisoners, and four days after beheaded.

Three miles south of Towcester is WHITTLEBURY-FOREST, which, according to an accurate survey, is nine miles long and three broad, where widest, and is divided by the woodmen into 5 walks; namely, Wakefield, where the duke of Grafton has a house, called Wakefield-lodge; Sholebrook, Hazleberry, Shrob, and Hanger-walks; and each of these is divided into several copices. There are also two lawns and large pastures for the deer, which are railed in. Fourteen townships were, till lately, allowed a right of common here for their cows and horses, in the open copices and ridings.

On the borders of this forest is POTTERSPE-
RY, an ancient Saxon town, where in the year 661 a battle was fought between Cornwall, king of the West-Saxons, and Wolfere, king of the Mercians.

Between four and five miles to the east of Towcester is GRAFTON, a village seated on the road which leads from Stony Stratford to Northampton, and remarkable for giving the title of duke to the noble family of Fitzroy.

From Towcester a road extends upwards of seven miles to BRACKLEY, which is seated on a place full of brake or fern, whence it is supposed to have taken its name. It is situated fifty-seven miles north-west of London, and is supposed to

be the third borough erected in England ; it was once famous for its tilts and tournaments, and was also formerly a great staple for wool, but that trade is almost lost. It is pleasantly watered by the springs of the river Ouse, which rise near the town ; it sends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor, six aldermen, and twenty-six burgeses. The mayor is annually chosen by the burgeses of the court-leet of the lord of the manor. Here are two parish churches, and a free grammar-school. The family of the Zouches built a college here, which, though much decayed, is kept from falling to ruins by Magdalen college in Oxford. It has a market on Wednesdays, for fat hogs, provisions, boots and shoes ; with five fairs, held on the 25th of February, for horses, cows and sheep ; on the third Saturday in April, for horses, cows and swine ; on the Wednesday after the 22d of June, for horses and cows ; on the Wednesday before the 10th of October, for horses, cows, and the hiring of servants ; and on the 11th of December, for horses, cows and sheep. In this town Robert earl of Leicester, in the beginning of the twelfth century, gave a piece of ground for building an hospital upon it, which was endowed by his son Robert, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

At AYNO, or ANO, a village about four miles south-west of Brackley, on the borders of Oxfordshire, was an hospital, dedicated to St. John and St. James, founded in the reign of Henry the Second, and united to Magdalen college in Oxford in the year 1484.

We shall now return back to Northampton, from which a road extends north-west to Banbury in Oxfordshire.

At two miles to the south-east of this road, and at ten miles south-west of Northampton, is ASH-

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BY-CANON, where was a priory of Black canons, of the order of St. Augustine, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary before the reign of king John. It is uncertain by whom it was founded, but at the time of the dissolution it had thirteen religious, and its revenue was valued at 119 l. by Dugdale; but at 128 l. by Speed.

From Northampton a road extends nine miles west to **DAVENTRY**, or **DAINTRY**, which is situated seventy-three miles north-west of London, and being a great thoroughfare from Towcester to Coventry, has many good inns, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen, a steward, and twelve free-men. Here is a charity-school, and near the town is a course for horse-races. It is seated on the side of Borough-hill, which is thus called from a very large ancient fortification, from whence is a prospect of all the country round. On the east side is a military mount, called by the inhabitants Spelwel, which incloses within a bank two hundred acres of land, and is reckoned about three miles in compass; and in the breaches of the trenches, Roman coins have sometimes been found. Below this encampment, on the south-east side of the hill, is a smaller camp, surrounded with a single trench, with a bank of earth on the inside. To the south, about a quarter of a mile below the rampart, is a place, called by the neighbouring inhabitants Burnt-walls, where many loads of stone have been dug up and carried away. This camp is generally allowed to be a Roman station, and the Benvavenna of the Romans, and was afterwards made use of by the Saxons. Daventry has a market on Wednesdays, and five fairs, held on Easter-Tuesday, for horses and horned cattle; on the 6th of June, for swine, and all sorts of goods; on the third of August, for horned cattle, horses and sheep; on the 2d of October, for

cattle, cheese, onions, &c. and on the 27th of October, chiefly for sheep; this last is called Ram-fair. This town had a priory, which was first founded at Preston by Hugh de Leicester (called the viscount) but that place being found inconvenient, it was by license from Simon de St. Liz the Elder, earl of Northampton, removed to this place, and a monastery built to the honour of St. Augustine; he also endowed it with these several churches all in the same county (viz.) Foxton, Lubenho, Scalford, Guthmundley, Bitlebroc, and Braybroc; many were benefactors to this house, as Maud de St. Liz, Richard de Foxton, Stephen de Welton, and Henry de Braybroc. The revenue belonging to this priory now belongs to Christ-church college in Oxford. Its annual value at the dissolution, according to Speed, was 236 l. 7 s.

John Wilkins, a learned and ingenious prelate in the seventeenth century, was born in the year 1614, at Daventry, and educated at Magdalen-hall, Oxford. Having finished his studies, and taken holy orders, he became chaplain, first to the lord viscount Say and Seale, then to George lord Berkeley, and, last of all, to Charles count palatine of the Rhine, during the residence of that prince in England. It was his profound knowledge in mathematical learning that recommended him chiefly to this last post; his electoral highness being a great lover of the mathematics, and a generous patron of all who excelled in them. In 1638 Mr. Wilkins commenced author, by publishing a book, intitled, *A Discovery of a new World; or a Discourse tending to prove, that it is probable there may be another habitable World in the Moon: with a Discourse concerning the possibility of a passage thither.* This passage he proposed to effect by means of a *flying-chariot*; not considering, that,

at

At a certain height, there is no air to support any thing. In 1640 he favoured the public with a *Discourse concerning a New Planet; tending to prove, that it is probable our Earth is one of the Planets*; and this was followed, the ensuing year, with a third piece, intitled, *Mercury; or the secret and swift Messenger: shewing, how a man may, with privacy and speed, communicate his thoughts to a friend at any distance*. This scheme he proposed to accomplish by means of signals and other contrivances. During the time of the civil war he adhered to the parliament, but acted, through that whole period, with uncommon lenity and moderation; employing his time partly in the discharge of his ecclesiastical function (for he had now obtained some preferments) partly in applying to his philosophical studies, and establishing those private meetings of learned men, which afterwards gave birth to the Royal Society: after the restoration of king Charles he was ejected from the mastership of Trinity college, Cambridge, to which he had been presented by Richard Cromwell; but though his promotion was strongly opposed by archbishop Sheldon and others, yet was he, in a very little time, appointed preacher to the society of Gray's-Inn, rector of St. Lawrence-Jewry, dean of Rippon; and in 1668, was advanced to the see of Chester. Upon the first institution of the Royal Society in 1663, he was nominated one of their council, and in 1668 he published his *Essay towards a Real Character and a Philosophical Language*. He died November the 19th, 1672, and was buried in the church of St. Lawrence Jewry. Besides the works above-mentioned, he wrote several other tracts. His *Principles and Duties of Natural Religion*, and a volume of his *Sermons*, were published after his death, by Dr. Tillotson.

At CATESBY, a village three miles to the southward of Daventry, Robert, the son of Philip de Esseby, built a priory of Benedictine nuns, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edmund, which, at the dissolution, had ten nuns; when the annual revenues of this priory amounted, according to Dugdale, to 132 l. 10 s. 11 d. but according to Speed, to above 145 l.

LYLBORN, seven miles north of Daventry, is generally supposed to have been a Roman station, from its situation on the Watling-street, and the Roman pavements, trenches, ruins of walls and houses, and military mounts of various dimensions there, or at a small distance, more especially from the traces of a fort at a mount, called the Round hill.

In a field near WHITTON, about four miles south-east of Daventry, old foundations of houses have been dug up, with a great number of Roman coins, which the people here call Danes-money. Near the town runs the Roman road, called Watling-street.

WEDON, or WEEDON IN THE STREET, a village four miles south-east of Daventry, seated on the river Nen, which here is but narrow. It was once the royal seat of Wolfher, king of the Mercians, but his daughter Werburgha, in the year 630, converted the palace into a convent. Soon after the conquest, Roger de Thebovil having given a moiety of the manor of this town to the convent of Bec in Normandy, here was likewise erected an alien priory, which was given by king Henry the Sixth as part of the endowment of Eton college. Camden would have this town to be the Bennavenna of Antoninus, because the distance from other stations exactly agree. Likewise a military way goes directly northward from this place; but the causeway in many parts is broken

ken and worn away. It is called Wedon in the Street, from its being seated on the Roman road, called Watling-street, which mostly appears with a high ridge, as far as Dowbridge near Lilborn. Dr. Stukeley calls it Benavona, and affirms, that is the true name. The old town, according to him, seems to have been in two pastures west of the road, and south of the church, called Upper Ash Close, and Nether Ash Close, in which may be seen the traces of the ditch, and rampart that surrounded it, and many marks of great foundations. About the chapel of St. Werburg just mentioned, has been dug up abundance of very fine stone, and many Roman coins. Wedon now consists of two parishes, and has been a market town; there is a large Roman camp, about a mile to the south, and as much from Watling-street, called Castle-Dykes; which Dr. Stukeley says, was probably one of those made by Publius Auctorius Scapula, proprætor under Claudius. It takes up near eleven acres of ground, and on the highest part has been found the ruins of a fortress. In searching among the stones two rooms were discovered, of which one had stone walls and an arched roof, but from the other, it is said, issued a stench like that of putrified carcases, which prevented any farther examination. Roman coins and pavements have also been found here.

At WOODFORD, a village about three miles south east of Weedon in the Street, and four miles to the west of the road which leads from Towcester to Daventry, there have been found evident tokens of Roman buildings, and some years ago a Roman urn was turned up by a plough.

The manor of EVERTON, near Weedon, was, before the year 1217, given to the abbey of Bernay in Normandy; and here was for some time an alien priory.

We shall now return back to Northampton, and taking the road which leads north-west to Harborough in Leicestershire, shall proceed seven miles in that road to BRICKSWORTH, or BRIXWORTH, which is a small village, a quarter of a mile in length, and has a fair on Whitsun-Monday, for all sorts of cloth, hardware and toys.

A little to the north-west of Bricksworth is NASEBY, where a bloody battle was fought, in the reign of king Charles the First, between the royalists and parliamentarians, upon a fine plain, on which are still visible the marks of several great holes in which the slain were interred.

About a mile to the north-west of Naseby is SULBY, where William de Wodeville, in 1155, founded an abbey of the Premonstratensian order, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It had several other benefactors, and was valued at the dissolution at 258 l. 8 s. 5 d. per annum by Dugdale; and at upwards of 305 l. by Speed.

KEYLAND in the parish of Cottesbrook, two miles south-east of Naseby, was given to the above abbot and convent, by William Boutevillein; and here was erected a cell of Premonstratensian canons, dedicated to St. John.

About five miles west of Bricksworth is GUILDSBOROUGH, or GUILDSBOROUGH, a village seated on a high hill, from whence is an extensive prospect every way. Here is a large fortification in the form of a Roman camp, of an oblong square, and the two shortest sides are north and south. It is seated on the Roman road, called Watling-street.

There are two roads leading from Northampton to the most northern parts of the county, and we shall first trace that which lies to Stamford. Twelve miles to the north of Northampton is KETTERING, which is seated on an ascent, by a small

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small river that runs into the Nen, at the distance of seventy-three miles north-west of London. It is a pretty large populous town, in which is a sessions-house for the justices of peace for the county, a small hospital, and a charity-school for twenty girls. The woollen manufactory was introduced here in the last century by Mr. Jordan, and two thousand hands are said to be employed in making shalloons, tammies, and serges; and the town carries on a considerable trade. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, held on the Thursday before St. Thomas's day, the Thursday before Easter, and the Thursday before the 10th of October, for horses and horned cattle, sheep, hogs and pedlary.

Two miles north-east of Kettering is BOUGHTON, a village that has a fair on the 24th, 25th, and 26th of June, for timber, poles, ladders, braziers, turnery, china, and great quantities of hats, stockings, and ready-made cloaths. Here is the noble seat built by the first duke of Montague, after the model of the palace of Versailles. The cieling of the hall is admirably painted with the convocation of the gods, and the cielings, and stair-cases, of many other rooms are finely painted, and richly adorned with pictures done by the great masters. The gardens, which contain 90 acres, are embellished with statues, flower-pots, vases of marble and metal, a variety of fountains, large basons of water, fish-ponds, canals, wildernesses, terraces, a fine cascade, and a river, which running through the whole length of the gardens, add greatly to their beauty. The park is walled round, well planted with trees, and kept in excellent order.

Between two and three miles to the north-west of Kettering is ROTHWELL, or ROWELL, which

stands on the side of a rocky hill, whence it is plentifully supplied with springs of pure water. It is a pretty good town, and was a considerable place in the reign of William the Conqueror. It has a fine market-house, which is a square stone building, adorned with the arms of most of the nobility and gentry of the county, carved under the cornice, on the out-side: but the market, which is on Mondays, is almost come to nothing, on account of its nearness to Kettering. Here was a small priory for three or four nuns, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, which was valued at the suppression at 5 l. 19 s. 8 d. per annum; and it has a fair, which begins on Trinity-Monday, and lasts all the week, for horses, horned cattle and pedlary; and the last day also for leather.

At PIPWELL, or PIPEWELL, a village two miles north-west of Rothwell, William de Bou-tevylein founded, in the year 1143, an abbey of Cistercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the revenues of which were valued at the suppression at 286 l. 11 s. 8 d. a year by Dugdale; but at 347 l. by Speed.

At the distance of three miles and a half to the westward of Rothwell is OXENDON, which is remarkable for the square tower of the church, having an echo, which is said to repeat twelve or thirteen syllables very distinctly.

At DINGLEY, a village a little above two miles to the westward of Pipewell, was a preceptory belonging to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which at the dissolution was endowed with lands worth 108 l. 13 s. 5 d. a year.

SIBBERTOFT is a village eight miles west of Rothwell; and four south-west of Harborough, is taken notice of, on account of the springs of the river Welland, which are at the ponds of the vicarage.

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vicarage-house here. On the north-east side of the village is a piece of ground, called the Castle-yard, in the lower part of which there is an eminence, and upon it a round raised mount, intrenched on the south side, with a natural precipice on the other sides. Below the mount southward is a semi-circular bank, encompassed with a trench, and an area of half an acre. It is thought the design of this fortress was to hinder the inroads of the Danes from the north.

FARNDON is a village about two miles north-east of Sibbertoft, and on the top of a hill, in this place, stood a castle or bulwark against the Danes; but there is nothing now remaining only two military trenches.

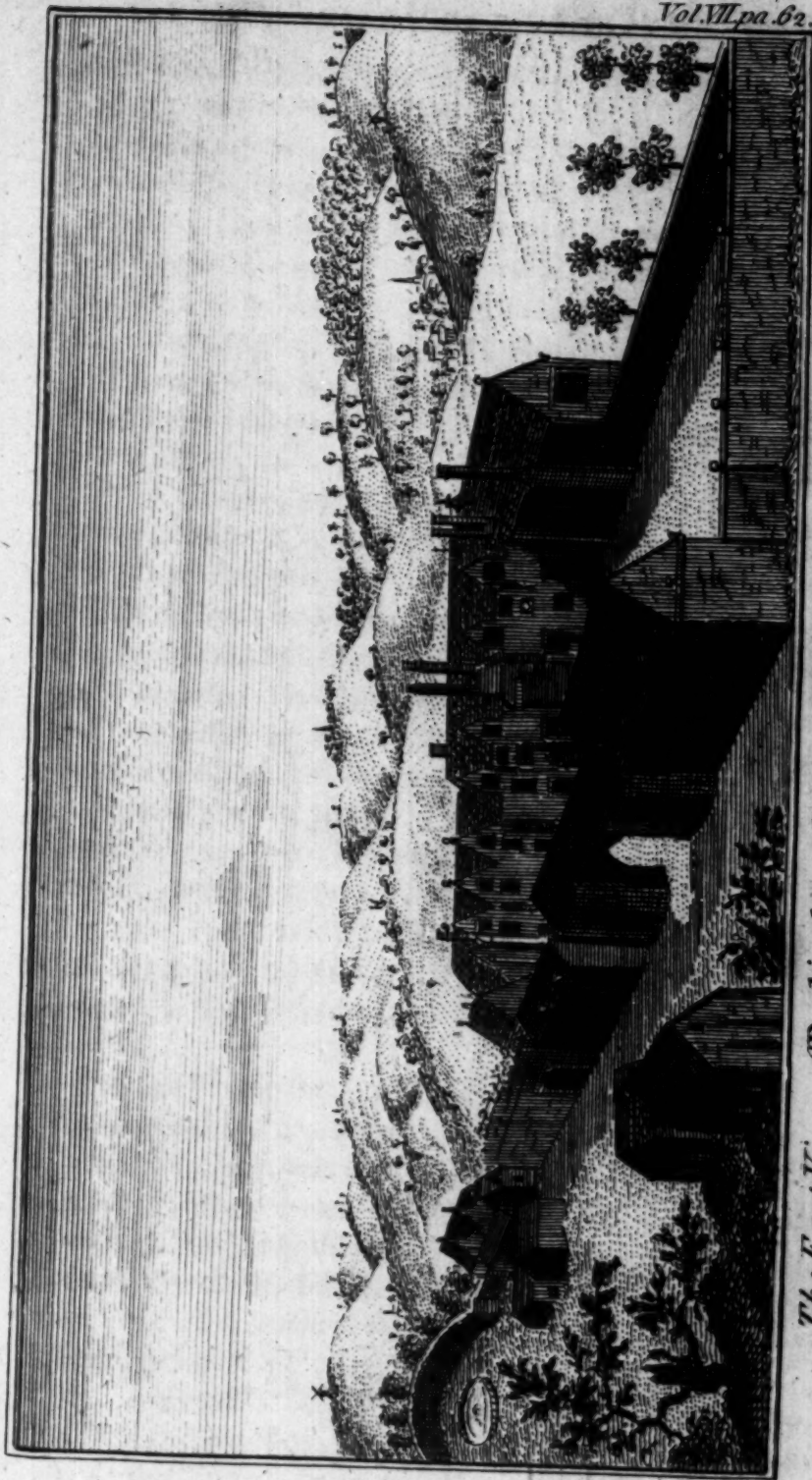
In this part of the county, near the head of the Velland, there are several mounts, now called Moot-hills, and one of these is near Farndon. Some think the people met here to consult, and to give warning to the country all round, to be on their guard against an approaching enemy.

From Kettering a road extends about ten miles north-west to ROCKINGHAM, which is a town seated on the river Welland on the northern borders of the county, at the distance of eighty-three miles north by west of London. It is famous for its castle and forest. The latter extended over all the large tract of land between the rivers Welland and Nen, which, in the times of barbarism, was inhabited by the Britons; but when the Romans became masters of these parts, they cut down a great number of the trees, and converted the land into tillage and pasture. The Saxons set up iron works here, on account of the plenty of timber, which soon helped to destroy most of what remained, and the refuse of the iron-ore is still found in the fields. The extent of Rockingham-forest, according to a survey taken in the year

year 1641, was fourteen miles in length, and five in breadth, but it is now broken into small parts, and divided into three bailiwicks. In several of its woods, a great quantity of charcoal is made, and every year, many waggon loads of it are sent to Peterborough. The castle was built by William the Conqueror, and put under the command of Odo, earl of Champagne and Albemarle. It was seated upon the side of a hill in a woody forest, and was fortified with ramparts, bulwarks, and a double range of battlements, but it still remained in the disposal of the crown; and in the following reign, the forest, being stocked with deer, was put under the care of the governor of the castle. The town was built a considerable time after the castle; this was about the reign of king John, who gave the manor and castle to his son Richard earl of Cornwall. King Charles the First, in the year 1621, created Sir Lewis Wat-son baron of Rockingham; but it now gives the title of marquis to the noble family of Wentworth. Of this castle we have given a view. The town has a charity-school for twelve boys, and a market on Thursdays, with a fair on the 25th of September, for horses, cows, sheep, hogs, pewter, hats and cloth.

Two miles north of Rockingham is HARRINGWORTH, which was once the seat of the family of the Zouches, who flourished in the reign of king James the First, but their estate has been sold, the seat pulled down, and the chapel, which belonged to the house, and contained the monuments of the family, is now in ruins.

Eight miles to the northward of Kettering, and four to the east of Rockingham is WELDON, a town that has a handsome market-house, with a sessions chamber over it built with stone, but has nothing else worthy of notice. There is here a
market



The East View of Rockingham Castle, in the County of Northampton.



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market on Thursdays, and four fairs, which are held on the 19th of February, the 21st of May, the 20th of August, and the 17th of September, for brass, pewter, hats, linen and woollen cloth.

Two miles north of Weldon is DEAN, a village that had an ancient priory before the conquest, which was a cell to Westminster abbey, and was suppressed soon after the conquest.

Three miles south by east of Weldon is BRIG-STOCK, a village that has three fairs, held on the 6th of May, for horses and horned cattle; on the 5th of September, for sheep, brass and pewter; and on the 22d of November, for hats, shoes, boots and pedlary.

Six miles to the northward of Weldon is KINGS-CLIFF, a town seated near a rivulet called Willoughbrook. It has a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the 29th of October, for cheese, home-spun linen, and turners ware.

About a mile and a half west of Kings-Cliff is FINSHED priory, which was founded for canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, by Richard Engain, lord Brotherwick, in the reign of Henry the Second, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its lands and possessions were valued at the dissolution at 56 l. 10 s. 11 d. per annum.

Six miles to the northward of Kings-Cliff is STAMFORD, of which we have given a particular account in Lincolnshire; the greatest part of that populous town being seated in that county, on the north side of the Welland; but as there is a hamlet on the south side of that river, it ought to be mentioned in this place. It consists of a long street, descending to the great bridge over the river. The ground is stony and naturally paved; the houses are uniform, though built at several times for inn-keepers and tradesmen; they have most of them stone walls, and are covered with slate. The

George

George inn has been esteemed one of the finest in England, with respect to the number of handsome rooms. In the year 922 king Edward erected a fort on the south side of the Welland, the ground plot of which is still visible. On the south-east side of Stamford, William de Waterville, abbot of Peterborough, in the reign of king Henry the Second, erected a Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Michael. This house was subordinate to the abbey of Peterborough, and at the suppression of religious houses, its revenues amounted to 65 l. 19 s. 9 d. a year: and on the south side of Stamford bridge, stood an ancient free chapel or hospital, dedicated to St. John, and St. Thomas the Martyr, consisting of a master and brethren, founded about the end of the reign of king Henry the Second.

A little to the eastward of Stamford is BURLEIGH house, erected by the lord Burleigh, lord high treasurer to queen Elizabeth. This house is a noble structure, though the architecture is ancient: it is built entirely of free-stone, and by which way soever you approach it, its lofty towers and pinnacles resemble so many parish churches in a great town. The house is seated on an eminence, and has a prospect for upwards of thirty miles into the fens of Lincolnshire. On ascending the hill you come to a fine esplanade before the great gate, where is a handsome semicircle taken in by an iron balustrade. The front has a grand appearance, and from the above semicircle you ascend a few steps to a noble hall, adorned with very fine paintings, particularly a picture of Seneca bleeding to death, for which it is said the king of France offered the earl six thousand pistoles. The cieling of all the fine apartments, the chapel, and the late earl's closet, are painted
by

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by Varrio, whom the earl kept twelve years in his family.

Twelve miles south-east of Stamford is the city of PETERBOROUGH, which is seated on the river Nen, seventy-six miles north by west of London, but is reckoned the least city, and poorest bishopric in England. It received its name from its antient monastery dedicated to St. Peter. We are told by ancient writers, that in the river Nen, formerly called Avon, was a gulph of prodigious depth, named Medeswell, near which was a town, named Medeswell-Hampstead, or Medes-Hampstead. This was said to have been seated in a very fine spot, having on one side a meer of excellent water, and on the other, many woods, meadows and pastures. Peada, the son of Penda, the first king of the Mercians, was so pleased with the place, that he determined to found a monastery here, and accordingly began it in the year 655, but he dying, or, as some say, his wife causing him to be murdered, his two brothers Wolfere and Ethelred, and his sisters, Kinneburga and Kinneswitha, finished and endowed it. After this the monastery flourished about 200 years, and was encompassed with a wall, which was carried round the town by one of the abbots. However, when the Pagan Danes invaded this island, and pillaged all the places wherever they came, Peterborough was destroyed among the rest in 870. In that year the abbot of Crowland in Lincolnshire, and his monks, flying to this monastery for protection, were overtaken by those invaders, and murdered in a court of the abbey, called the Monks churchyard, from their being all buried in it; and their effigies are still to be seen upon a tomb-stone erected over their common grave. The abbey after this lay neglected about a hundred years, till Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, assisted by king Edgar,

Edgar, and Adulf his chancellor, rebuilt it in a more magnificent manner; and having spent his whole fortune upon it, was made the first abbot. He then cut down the woods, built manor houses and granges, and let the lands out at certain rents, by which means it soon became filled with inhabitants, while the monastery obtained large revenues and great privileges. The abbots were called to parliament in the reign of Henry the Third, and had the honour of the mitre in the year 1400. At the time of the dissolution, it had about forty monks of the Benedictine order, when the revenues of the abbey were valued by Dugdale, at 1721 l. a year; and by Speed, at 1972 l. King Henry the Eighth converted it into a bishopric, and the monastery church into a cathedral, which, besides the bishop, dean, and six prebendaries, has eight petty canons, four students in divinity, one epistler, one gospeller, a sub-dean, sub-treasurer, and chanter, eight choristers, eight singing-men, two chancellors, a schoolmaster, usher, and twenty scholars, a steward, organist, and other inferior officers. This structure is four hundred and seventy-nine feet in length, and two hundred and three broad in the transept from north to south, and the breadth of the nave and side isles is ninety-one feet. The western front, which is a hundred and fifty-six feet broad, is a noble piece of Gothic architecture, supported by three lofty arches, curiously adorned with pillars, and a variety of imagery. The windows of the cloysters are finely stained with scripture histories, the figures of the founder of the monastery, and the succession of abbots. St. Mary's chapel is large, and curiously adorned with carved work, and the choir makes a noble appearance. This church was, however, greatly defaced in the civil wars, and deprived of many of its ornaments. Among other

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Other of its monuments, here is one of queen Catharine, who was divorced by king Henry the Eighth, and another of Mary, queen of Scots, both of whom were buried in this cathedral; tho' the body of the queen of Scots is said to have been removed to Westminster-abbey, by her son James the First. Here is also the monument of a sexton named Scarlet, who, according to his epitaph, died at the age of ninety-five, after having buried both the above queens, and two successive generations of all the house-keepers in the town.

Though Peterborough is ancient, it is not very large, it having no more than one church, besides the cathedral. The houses, however, are well built, and the streets are regular, with a handsome market-place, in which is a good market-house, where the assizes and sessions for the hundred are kept. The city has a wooden bridge over the river Nen; but the air, on account of the neighbouring fens, is not esteemed very healthy; however, the water of the river is fresh and good, the highest spring-tide never coming up within five miles of the town, which is plentifully supplied with water by excellent springs. It is governed by a mayor, aldermen, and a recorder, according to a charter granted by king Henry the Eighth, and sends two members to parliament. The jurisdiction of the city extends over thirty-two towns and hamlets, in which the civil magistrates, appointed by the royal commission, are vested with the same power as the judges of assize, and hold their quarterly sessions in the city. There are two charity schools, one founded and endowed by Mr. Thomas Deacon of this city, for twenty boys, who, after being taught to read and write, are put out apprentices; and another for teaching forty poor girls to spin and read, the charge

charge of their education being chiefly defrayed by their labour. The market is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs, held on the 10th of July, and the 2d of October, for horses, stock of all sorts, and wrought timber. The trade of this city is not very considerable, tho' the river Nens made navigable to it by barges, in which coals and other commodities are imported, and from hence malt, cloth, stockings, and other woollen manufactures, in which the poor are employed, are exported. This city gives the title of earl to the noble family of Mordaunt.

Besides the abbey above-mentioned, it appears that there was here a spital, or hospital, for leproous persons, dependant on the abbey, so early as in the reign of king Stephen; and that Benedict, abbot of Peterborough, about the year 1180, founded an hospital at the gate of the abbey, dedicated to St. Thomas Becket.

Near Peterborough is CAERDYKE, or as it is commonly called Cordyke, an ancient trench of the Romans, made for draining the fens, and facilitating commerce in these parts, its dimensions being sufficient to render it navigable.

At PEAKIRK, near six miles north-west of Peterborough, St. Pega settled herself in a cell, which was afterwards improved into a monastery dedicated to the Trinity, and endowed by Edmund Athelling: but it suffered much from the Danes in 870, and was destroyed in 1013.

About four miles to the west of Peterborough is CASTOR, a village seated about half a mile north of the river Nen; supposed by some to be part of the Roman city called Durobrivae, and by the Saxons Dormancester, to which Horsley assents; but he thinks it stood rather nearer the river, than the present Castor, and on the north side. He owns the fortified ground on the south
side

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side of the river near Chesterton is very remarkable ; and acknowledges the elevated military way, may be traced through it ; and also, that it is very visible, before it enters, and after it has passed it. The ancient town near Castor is called Dornford, by Camden, and in some of our maps. The country people are quite strangers to this circumstance, and yet they still call the coins that are found here Dormans, and the way Norman-gate. They have found chequered pavements here, and in the adjoining fields, large quantities of Roman coins have been dug up ; as also antique earthen vessels, stones of foundations and ruined walls. The Roman highway that passes by it is called Ermine-street, which soon after divides into two, and the causeways are still to be seen. The one is called the Forty-foot way, which begins at Peterborough, and passes by Burleigh park wall, to Stamford ; and the other Long-ditch, or High-street, by Lolham Bridges, a place thought to be of great antiquity, for there are still eleven arches to be seen, though they are in a very ruinous condition. There is also a way called the Lady Conyborough's way, corruptly for Kineburgha's way ; which appears to be nothing but a Roman paved way, leading from a fortress, on the other side of the river Nen, to the castle, or principal fort upon the hill, where the church now stands, and which is supposed to have been the residence of the Roman governor. It is observable, that every where, near the fenny country, great precaution and strength were employed, probably to prevent the incursions of the Britons. Dr. Stukeley met with a piece of the foundation of the wall of the Roman Castrum, in the street by the north-west corner of the church. He adds, that this Castrum went round the church-yard, and took in the whole top of the hill, facing

ing

ing the south. Underneath it lay the city; and below the church-yard, the ground is full of foundations and Mosaic pavements. At Ford-green, such pavements are often found, with earthen pipes, bricks, and all sorts of antiquities; and in that field there is a tract, running quite through, whereon corn grows very poorly; which is owing to a street or road, layed deep with a bed of gravel. The common people pretend, that the lady Kineburgha cursed it. This lady they say was an abbess, who built a religious house here, eastward of the church, some part of which still remains. The church here is very ancient, though newly modelled, and the tower is a fine piece of ancient architecture, with semicircular arches; but the spire seems to be of later date. The square well by the porch is certainly Roman, and though it stands on a high hill, yet the water is very high, and at the east end of the church, there is a very old cross. On a hill, upon which a church now stands, was anciently a castle, the seat of the Roman governor.

On entering the road, which lies to the west of Castor, we proceed southward to FOTHERINGAY, a village encompassed on every side with pleasant meadows, and has a fair on the third Monday after old Midsummer-day, for horses. Here was anciently a convent, the nuns of which were translated to De la Pre near Northampton. King Henry the Fourth, in the year 1411, began in this town a noble college, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and All Saints, for a master, twelve chaplains or fellows, eight clerks, and thirteen choristers, which, at the dissolution, had lands of the yearly value of 499 l. 15 s. 9 d. In this town was also a very ancient castle, which was in the possession of the earls of Chester, in the reign of Henry the Third; after which it passed through
several

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several hands, and was rebuilt by Edmund of Langley, duke of York, the son of king Edward the Third. In this castle, Mary queen of Scots was confined, and at last beheaded.

Two miles south of Fotheringay is OUNDLE, which is supposed to be a corruption of Avendale, and to have been so called from its being seated in a low vale or valley, by the river Nen, formerly called the Avon, which almost encompasses it. It is sixty-five miles north by west of London, fourteen south by west of Peterborough, and ten to the south-eastward of Stamford. It is neatly and uniformly built, and has two good stone bridges over the Nen, one of which, called the North bridge, is remarkable for the number of its arches, and a fine causeway leading to it. Here is a handsome church, a free-school, and an alms-house, the two last founded and endowed in the year 1544, by Sir William Laxton, lord mayor of London, and supported by the grocer's company of that city; another alms-house built by one Nicholas Latham, a charity-school for thirty boys, and another for twelve girls. This town has a good market on Saturdays, for cattle, corn, flesh and fowl, and also three fairs, held on the 25th of February, Whitson-Monday, and the 21st of August, for horses, sheep, and a few cows.

At OUNDLE, was a monastery before the year 711, generally thought to have been founded by Wilfrid, archbishop of York, which afterwards became a cell to the abbey of Peterborough; and in the church-yard was formerly an alms-house founded in the year 1485.

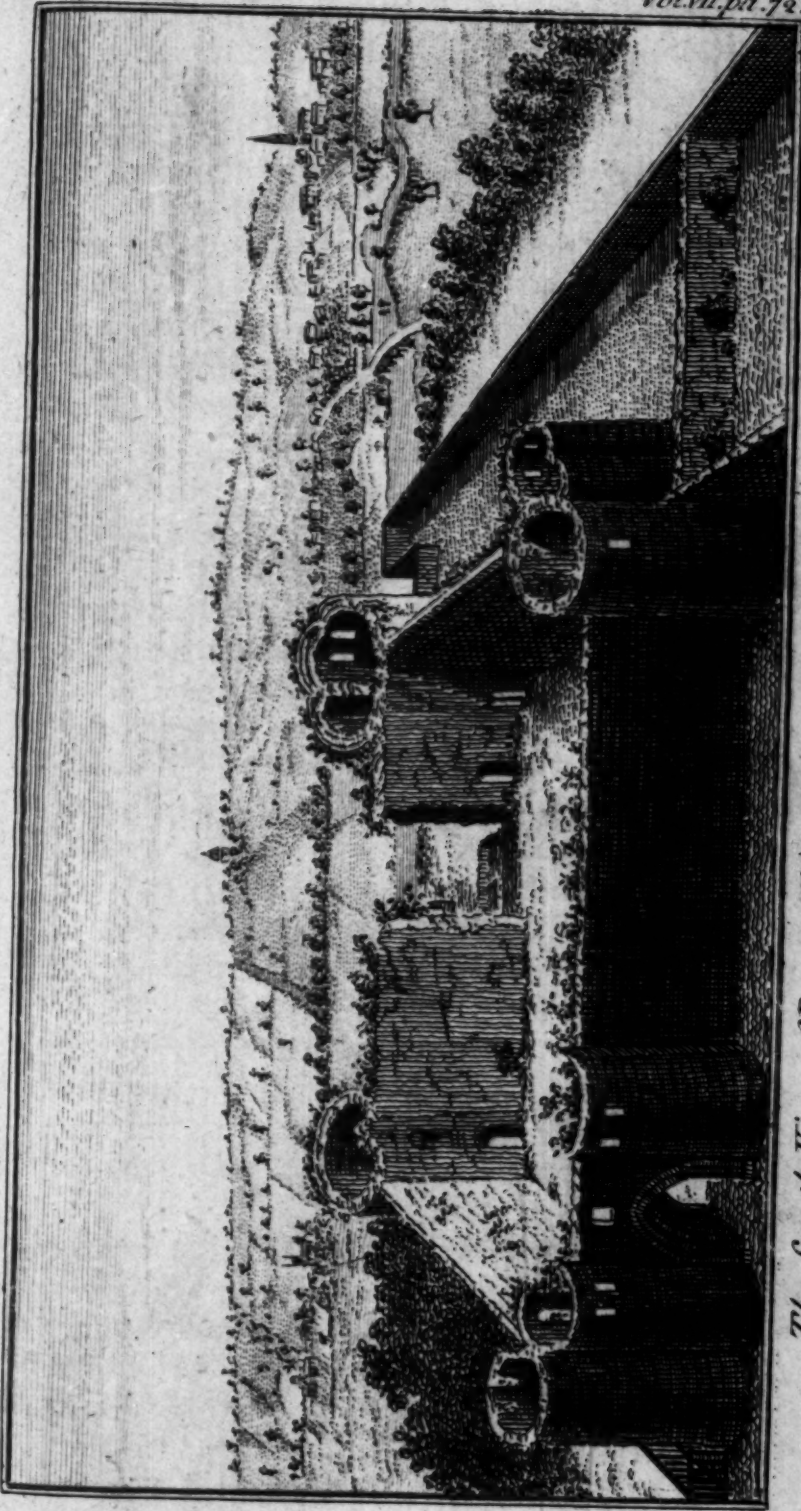
BARNWELL CASTLE near Oundle, was built by Reginald de Morgne, in the reign of Henry the First, and in the year 1132. It was afterwards sold in the reign of Edward the First, together

gether with the manor of Barnwell St. Andrew, to William, the abbot of Ramsey, in the county of Huntingdon, and to that abbey it belonged till the general suppression, when Sir Edward Montagu, lord chief justice of the King's bench, purchased it of that king, and repaired and beautified it. From him it descended to his grace the duke of Montagu. But it is in a great measure demolished, though the lower part of the walls is still standing, as the reader will see from the view we have here given of it.

At WOLTHROP, a village not far from Oundle, there appears to have been a small Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to St. Mary, as early as the reign of king Henry the First.

The road from Oundle extends seven miles south to THRAPSTON, which was originally called Thorpston, and is seated sixty-five miles from London, in a pleasant valley, upon the east bank of the river Nen, over which it has a handsome bridge. The river Nen was made navigable to this town, by act of parliament, and boats came up to it for the first time in November 1737, by which means coals are sold here cheaper than in London. The air, soil, and water of this place, are so good, that few towns afford a more eligible retreat for those who choose a country life. It has a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the first Tuesday in May, for sheep, horned cattle, &c. and merchandize; and on July 5, for pedlary, shoes, hiring harvest-men, &c.

To the north-west of Thrapston is DRAYTON house, which was formerly a castle, and descended to Henry Green, a gentleman of great wealth, in the reign of king Henry the Sixth. His only daughter Constance, by marrying John Stafford, earl of Wiltshire, brought this house and manor into that family; but on the decease of Edward
her



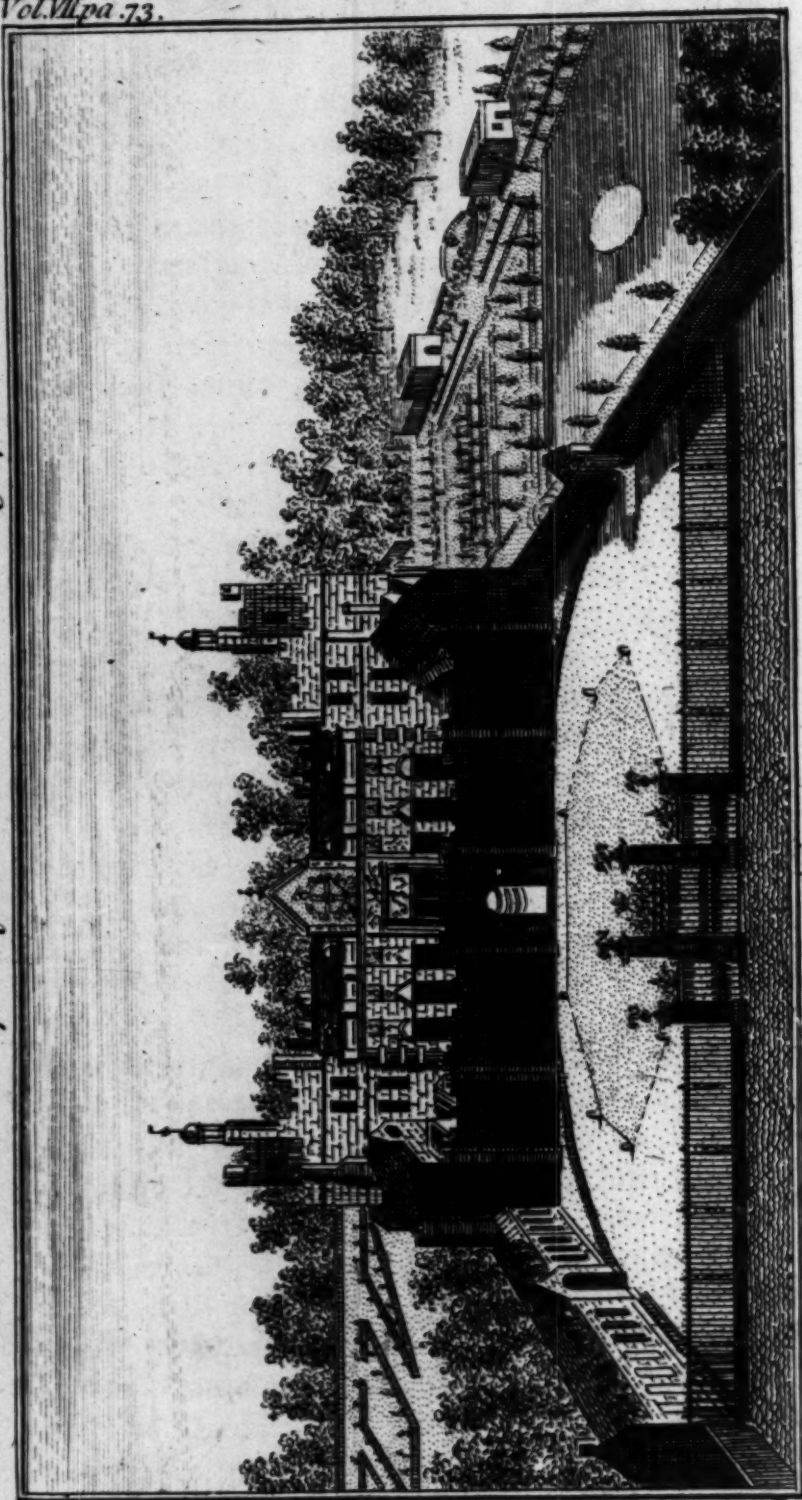
The South View of Barnwell Castle, in the County of Northampton.





The South View of Drayton House, in the County of Northampton.

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her son, and heir without issue, it devolved to the Veres, by the marriage of Isabel, sister and sole heiress of the above Henry Green, to Henry Vere, Esq; who afterwards received the honour of knighthood; but he dying without issue, Elizabeth, his daughter and co-heiress, was married to John, first lord Mordaunt, earl of Peterborough, whose only daughter Mary, married Henry, duke of Norfolk, and he dying without issue, she married Sir John Germain, Bart. There are now but little remains of the old castle, the greatest part being rebuilt; so that at present it is a very beautiful structure, whose architecture and turrets have a very fine effect; and of which we have given a view.

From Thrapston the road extends six miles south to HIGHAM-FERRERS, or FERRIS, which signifies the high house of Ferrers, it deriving its name from a castle on a rising ground, anciently in the possession of the family of the Ferrers. It is a small town, but stands on the east side of the Nen, in a clean and dry situation: and has a good air, which renders it very pleasant. The church is a handsome structure, with a lofty spire. It has a free-school, and alms-house, for twelve men and one woman. It was made a borough in the reign of Philip and Mary, and the corporation consists of a mayor, steward, a recorder, seven aldermen, thirteen capital burghesses and commonalty, with several inferior officers. In the tenth year of Henry the Fifth, that prince granted a licence to Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, to found a college here, this being the place of his birth, for eight secular chaplains, one of whom was to teach grammar, four clerks and six choristers, who were to teach singing. It was incorporated by the name of the College of the Blessed Virgin, St. Thomas of Canterbury, and

St. Edward the Confessor. The bishop endowed it with lands in his life-time, and these were increased after his death by his brethren Robert and William, aldermen of London, his executors. Its annual value, at the suppression, according to Dugdale, was 155 l. 2 s.

Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, in the fifteenth century, was born of an obscure family, at Higham-Ferrers, and educated at Winchester-school, and New-college in Oxford. Being a man remarkable for his political abilities, he was sent ambassador by king Henry the Fourth, to Pope Gregory the Twelfth, who promoted him to the bishopric of St. David's, and consecrated him with his own hands. In 1409, he assisted at the council of Pisa. About four years after he was sent ambassador by king Henry the Fifth, to king Charles the First of France, and to John, duke of Burgundy; and in 1414, he was advanced to the see of Canterbury. It was chiefly by his advice that king Henry the Fifth was persuaded to assert his title to the crown of France. He founded a college in the place of his nativity, as also the college of All-Souls in Oxford. At last, after having held the archiepiscopal see for the space of twenty-nine years, he died April the 12th, 1443, and was interred in the cathedral of Canterbury, under a tomb of his own raising.

At ARTLEBOROUGH, a village on the other side of the Nen, near Higham-Ferrers, is a church in which John Pyel, in the reign of Edward the Third, began a college, for six secular canons or prebendaries, and four clerks, which, after his decease, was perfected by his executrix, in the reign of Richard the Second. This collegiate church was, at the dissolution, endowed with annual revenues, to the amount of 70 l. 6 s. 10 d.

About

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About four miles south-west of Higham Ferrers is WELLINGBOROUGH, which is supposed to have taken its name from the great number of wells and springs in and near it. It is seated on the south side of a hill, about a quarter of a mile to the west of the river Nen, in the road from Bedford to Nottingham, at the distance of sixty-five miles north by west of London, and is a large, populous trading town. It has a handsome church, and a charity-school for forty children, who are maintained, cloathed, and taught to read and write. As it is seated in a great corn country, its chief trade is in corn, and besides, it has a considerable manufacture of bone-lace, which, it is said, returns above 50 l. a week into the town, one week with another. It was destroyed by the Danes, but after it was recovered, it was made a market town by king John, and grew so famous for its trade in corn, that it greatly hurt the trade of Higham-Ferrers. In 1738 a dreadful fire broke out here, which, in six hours time, consumed above eight hundred houses, but they have since been rebuilt in a more beautiful manner than before. This town is celebrated for its medicinal waters, and queen Mary, wife to king Charles the First, is said to have continued many weeks here, by the advice of her physicians, to drink them. This town has a market on Wednesdays, and three fairs, held on Easter-Wednesday, for horses and hogs; on Wednesday in Whitson-week, for horses, horned cattle and sheep, and on October 29, for horses, horned cattle and cheese.

About a mile and a half south-east of Wellingborough, on the other side of the Nen, is CHESTER, where there was a Roman fortification, of an oblong square form, twice as long as broad, and was originally walled with stone. It extends in length from north to south, and the area within

consists of about twenty acres of ground. The bottom of the wall is about eight feet thick, and the out-courses of the stone, are laid flat-ways, but the inward endways. The river Nen runs under the western wall, and among the ruins of the southern wall have been found two plain stone pillars of an oblong quadrangular form, and about four feet long. Some take them to be sepulchral altars; but as they have no inscriptions, this is uncertain. Roman bricks and pavements are often found here, as also some Roman coins; and therefore there is no doubt, but it was a summer station for the Roman soldiers.

Six miles south-east of Wellingborough, and seven miles east of Northampton is CASTLE-ASHBY, the seat of the earl of Northampton, which was begun by Henry, lord Compton, and finished by his successor William, earl of Northampton. It was greatly damaged by fire, but has been repaired by the succeeding earls, and is at present a stately structure. The gardens are very fine, but the chief ornament of this noble seat is Yardley-chase, which is disposed in a regular and advantageous manner.

Besides the great men already mentioned as being in this county, it has produced the following.

Francis Godwin, an able divine, a candid historian, an elegant writer, and successively bishop of Landaff and Hereford, in the beginning of the seventeenth century, was born in the year 1561, at Havington in this county, and educated at Christ-church college, Oxford. He gave early proofs of his pregnant parts; for, by the time he had attained the twenty-second year of his age, he wrote a book, intitled, *the Man in the Moon*, or a voyage to that planet; and another called, *the Inanimate Courier*; both of them remarkable for learning
and

and ingenuity. But his capital performance, and that which laid the foundation of his future fame and fortune, was his *Catalogue of the English bishops, from the first planting of Christianity in this Island*: a work, which, at that time, was so well received, that queen Elizabeth, as a reward of his merit, bestowed upon him the bishopric of Landaff, from which he was afterwards, by king James the First, translated to the see of Hereford. He died in the month of April, 1633. Besides the works already mentioned, he wrote the annals of the reigns of king Henry the Eighth, king Edward the Sixth, and queen Mary; together with some other tracts of inferior note.

Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher, two celebrated dramatic poets of the seventeenth century, were so closely united as authors, and so jointly concerned in the fate of their productions, that their lives cannot well be separated. The former was born in Leicestershire in 1586: the latter, in Northamptonshire, in 1576. Beaumont's father was one of the judges of the Common-Pleas: Fletcher's was bishop of London. They were both educated at Cambridge. Having once met at a tavern, it is said, in order to form the plan of a tragedy, Fletcher proposed *to kill the king*; an expression, which, being overheard by an officious waiter, would probably have brought them into a good deal of trouble, had it not been happily discovered, that the plot was only against a dramatical king. Beaumont died in 1615; Fletcher, in 1625. Their first capital performance was *Philafter*, or *Love lies a Bleeding*; and that, as well as some of their other plays, has been altered and improved by succeeding writers.

Thomas Fuller, an eminent divine and historian, was the son of Mr. Thomas Fuller, minister of St. Peter's in the town of Oldwincle,

near Oundel in Northamptonshire, and born in that place in the year 1608. He had his education in the university of Cambridge, where he made such surprizing advances in his studies, that he took the degree of master of arts, before he had arrived at the twentieth year of his age. His first station in the church was that of being minister of St. Bennet's parish in Cambridge; whence he rose successively to be a prebendary in the cathedral of Salisbury, rector of Broad Windsor in Dorsetshire, and lecturer of the Savoy in London; but adhering to his sovereign, upon the breaking out of the civil war, he was stript by the parliament of all his preferments. He continued, nevertheless, during the troubles that ensued, to exercise his talents as a preacher, which were confessedly excellent; though the greatest part of his time was employed in composing his *Church History of Britain*, his *Worthies of England*, his *Pisgah-Sight of Palestine*, and several other works, with which he favoured the public. Upon the restoration he was appointed chaplain in ordinary to his majesty, and would probably have been advanced to still higher dignities, had he not been cut off by a fever, on the 16th of August, 1661, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. He was possessed, it is said, of such a tenacious memory, that, after a walk from Temple-bar to the farthest conduit in Cheapside, he repeated all the signs on both sides of the way, in due order, and without missing or misplacing a single one.

Thomas Randolph, an eminent English poet in the seventeenth century, was born June the 15th, 1605, at Newnham in this county, and educated first at Westminster-school, and afterwards at Trinity-college in Cambridge. To him might be applied that observation of Horace, *Poeta nascitur, non fit*; for when only about the age of nine

or

or ten, he wrote *the History of the Incarnation of Our Saviour*, in verse. His subsequent writings established his character, and procured him the esteem and friendship of some of the greatest wits of the age, particularly of Ben Johnson, who adopted him for one of his sons. He died in March 1634, aged not quite thirty, and was interred in Blatherwick-church in Northamptonshire, among the Stafford family. He wrote six dramatic pieces, and several other poems, which were all collected, and published after his death by a younger brother of his named Robert.

James Harrington, an eminent political writer in the seventeenth century, was the eldest son of Sir Sappote Harrington, and born at Upton in this county, in the beginning of the year 1611. Having finished his studies at Trinity college in Oxford, he travelled into foreign countries; and after spending some time in visiting the different courts of Europe, and examining the forms of the several governments, he returned to England a most accomplished gentleman. At the breaking out of the civil war he plainly favoured the parliament; though he took no farther concern in the troubles that followed, than by exerting his utmost endeavours to reconcile the contending parties. He afterwards attended the king, while that prince was a prisoner, as one of the grooms of his bed-chamber, and, by his sensible conversation, and dutiful behaviour, so effectually recommended himself to the good graces of his sovereign, that his majesty ever after entertained the highest regard for him, and even when he was upon the scaffold, a little before his execution, he gave Mr. Harrington, who was then present, a token of his affection. Mr. Harrington, however, tho' he esteemed the personal character of his majesty, and expressed the sincerest regret for his death, was,

by no means, a friend to monarchy ; as appeared from his *Oceana*, and other works, which he soon after published. And not content with propagating his republican principles merely by his writings, he instituted a society of gentlemen, who met nightly at Miles's coffee-house, New-Palace-yard, Westminster ; they were known by the name of the *Rota* ; and continued their meetings till about the 21st of February, 1659, when, the secluded members of parliament being restored by general Monk, all their political schemes at once vanished. It was probably for the zeal, which he shewed in this particular, that, notwithstanding his peaceable deportment after the restoration, he was, in 1661, committed to the Tower on a charge of high-treason ; and though no proof of his guilt could ever be produced, he was removed, first to St. Nicholas's island, and thence to Plymouth, where, from the effects of some medicines administered to him by one Dr. Dunstan, he was seized with a delirium. He recovered, however, both his liberty and his senses ; and returning to London, lived there in quiet till 1677, when he died of a palsy on the 11th of September of that year, and was buried in the church of St. Margaret, Westminster.

Samuel Foster, an eminent mathematician in the seventeenth century, and astronomy professor in Gresham-college, was born somewhere in the county of Northampton, but in what place or year is uncertain. During his residence in Emanuel-college Cambridge, where he had his education, he applied himself chiefly to the study of the mathematics, in which he made a very considerable progress. He succeeded Mr. Gillebrand in the astronomy-professorship in Gresham-college, which he afterwards resigned in favour of Mr. Murray, a Scottish gentleman ; upon whose
marrying,

marrying, and obtaining a living in the church, he resumed his former office. He died in July, 1652, and was buried in the church of St. Peter le Poor in Broad-street: his works are numerous. Some of them were published in his life-time; others after his death.

John Dryden, one of the most eminent poets of the seventeenth century, was descended of an honourable family, and born at Aldwinckle in Northamptonshire, August the 9th, 1651. He had his education at Westminster-school, under the famous Dr. Busby; and during his residence in that place, translated the *third Satire of Persius*, for a Thursday night's exercise, and wrote a *Poem on the Death of the lord Hastings*. Having perfected himself in classical learning, he removed to Trinity-college in Cambridge, where he prosecuted his studies with great ardour, and soon acquired the character of an excellent poet. In 1658 he published *Heroic Stanza's on the late Lord Protector*; and about two years after, his *Astraea Redux*, a poem on the restoration, made its appearance. In 1668, upon the death of Sir William Davenant, he was appointed poet laureat and historiographer to king Charles the Second; and, the same year, published his Essay on Dramatic poesy. His first play, entitled, *the Wild Gallant*, appeared in 1669; and during the twenty-four years that followed, he produced, besides his other numerous poetical writings, no less than twenty-six new plays; of which, though some of them are very indifferent, many are allowed to have a great deal of merit. His abilities, however, as a dramatic writer, were publicly ridiculed in the celebrated comedy, intituled, *the Rehearsal*, composed by the duke of Buckingham, who has there introduced him under the character of *Bays*; but for this assault, which, however severe, was not altogether

unmerited, he took ample revenge in his *Abſalom* and *Achitophel*, where, with great energy of ſtyle and poignancy of ſatire, he has laſhed his antagoniſt under the name of *Zimri*. In the beginning of the reign of king James the Second, he embraced the Roman Catholic religion; but this, if it eſtabliſhed him in the good graces of that prince, precluded him from the favour of the ſucceeding monarch: for being thereby rendered incapable of enjoying any public office, he was, upon the acceſſion of king William and queen Mary, deprived of his place of poet laureat, and was ſucceeded in it by Mr. Thomas Shadwell, againſt whom he ſoon after wrote his *Mac Fleck-neo*. His *Hind and Panther*, and ſome other pieces, were written in the preceeding reign. The remaining part of his life, as the former had been, was entirely devoted to the ſervice of the muſes; and his *Ode on St. Cecilia's day*, his tranſlation of Juvenal, Perſius, Virgil, Frefnay's art of painting, and of ſome parts of Ovid, were publiſhed at different times, and at no long intervals. His *Fables* were his laſt performance, and having now attained to the ſeventieth year of his age, he died May the 1ſt, 1701, and was buried in Weſtminſter-abbey, where a monument was afterwards erected to his memory by John duke of Buckingham. His *Ode to St. Cecilia*, and his *Abſalom* and *Achitophel*, are generally eſteemed his moſt finiſhed productions. His other works, though poſſeſſed of great beauties, are much leſs perfect: ſome of them are even extremely faulty, both in ſentiment and expreſſion: a circumſtance the leſs ſurprizing, when it is conſidered, that notwithſtanding his great merit, and his powerful connections (for he married a daughter of the earl of Berkhſhire) he could not yet procure an eſtabliſhment,

ment, which might exempt him from the necessity of writing for bread.

Daniel Whitby, a learned divine, in the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century, was born in 1638, at Rushden in Northamptonshire, and educated at Trinity-college in Oxford, of which he was chosen a fellow. Having taken his degrees, and entered into orders, he became chaplain to Dr. Seth Ward, bishop of Salisbury, who collated him to the prebends of Yatesbury, Husbourn and Burbach, in that cathedral. In 1672 he was appointed chantor of the said church; and about the same time obtained the rectory of St. Edmund's church in Salisbury. He died March the 24th, 1726, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. His works are numerous and well known: his *Paraphrase and Commentary on the New Testament* is the most considerable.

Elisha Coles, author of the dictionary, which goes by his name, was born in Northamptonshire about the year 1640. Having finished his studies at Oxford, he removed to London, where he became a teacher of the languages, and was afterwards chosen one of the ushers of Merchant-taylors school: but leaving that place (for what reason is not known) he withdrew to Ireland, from whence he never returned. Besides his dictionary, he wrote several other books, all of them calculated for the use of schools.

Charles Montague, earl of Halifax, the most distinguished statesman of his time, was the fourth son of George Montague, of Horton in Northamptonshire, Esq; younger son of Henry the first earl of Manchester; and was born at his father's seat above-mentioned, April the 16th, 1661. He had his education at Westminster-school, and at Trinity college in Cambridge, where he gave early proofs of his pregnant genius. In 1685 he wrote

a poem on the death of king Charles the Second, in which he displayed such strength of imagination, and elegance of taste, as attracted the notice of that great patron of the muses, the earl of Dorset, who invited him to London; and upon his coming thither he soon encreased his fame, by writing, in conjunction with Mr. Matthew Prior, a piece, intituled, *the Hind and Panther transversed to the Story of the Country-Mouse and City-Mouse*. Upon the abdication of king James the Second, he was chosen a member of the convention parliament, and recommended to king William by the earl of Dorset, who, introducing him to that monarch, said, *May it please your Majesty, I have brought a Mouse to have the honour of kissing your hand*. The king smiled, and replied, *Your Lordship will do well to put me in a way of making a Man of him*; and immediately ordered him a pension of 500 l. From this time forwards he rose by quick steps to the first offices and dignities, being successively a commissioner of the treasury, chancellor of the Exchequer, first lord of the Treasury, one of the lords justices of the kingdom during his majesty's absence in Holland; and in 1699, was created a peer of England, by the title of baron of Hallifax in the county of York. Nor were his dignities and employments superior to his abilities. The recoinage of the specie, the establishment of a general fund, the raising of the credit of the Bank, the erecting a new East India company, with several other schemes, were at once projected and executed by him, with a facility, which bespoke him an accomplished politician. He was obliged, however, to pay that debt, which must ever be paid by the great: his high merit and fortune excited envy. Twice was he attacked by the House of Commons, who impeached him of high crimes and misdemeanors; and as often was he defended by the Lords, who
even

even voted *that he deserved his Majesty's favour*. In 1706 he was one of the commissioners for concluding the Union with Scotland; and, upon passing the *Bill for the Naturalization of the illustrious House of Hanover, and for better securing the Crown in the Protestant line*, he was pitched upon as the most proper person to carry that act to Hanover. Upon the death of queen Anne, and before the arrival of king George the First, he was one of the lords of the regency; and immediately upon his majesty's coming to England, he was appointed first lord of the treasury, and created earl of Hallifax, and knight of the garter. This succession of honours, however, he did not live long to enjoy; for he died of an inflammation in his lungs May the 19th, 1715, and was interred in Westminster-abbey. His character has been drawn to great advantage by several of his contemporaries; particularly by Sir Richard Steel, in the dedication of the fourth volume of the *Tatler*, and that of the third volume of the *Spectator*.

Francis Gastrell, bishop of Chester in the beginning of the present century, was born at Slapton in Northamptonshire, about the year 1662. He received the first rudiments of learning at Westminster-school, under the famous Dr. Busby; from whence he removed to Christ-church in Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and divinity. In 1694, he was chosen preacher to the honourable society of Lincoln's-Inn; and about three years after was appointed to preach the sermons at Boyle's lecture. These sermons were afterwards published, and are deservedly held in great estimation. His character as a divine was now become so high, that he was constituted chaplain to the House of Commons, canon of Christ-church in Oxford, one of the chaplains in ordinary to queen Anne; and, in 1714, was raised

to the see of Chester. He died November the 14th, 1725. Besides his sermons at Boyle's lecture, he wrote a variety of other tracts, all of them excellent in their kind.

John Friend, a learned physician, and elegant writer of the eighteenth century, was born, in 1675, at Croton in Northamptonshire, and educated first at Westminster-school under the famous Dr. Busby, and afterwards at Christ-church college in Oxford, where he made so rapid a progress in his studies, that, by the time he had attained to the twenty-first year of his age, he published, in conjunction with Mr. P. Foulkes, a Latin translation of two Greek orations, the one that of *Æschines against Ctesiphon*, the other that of *Demosthenes de Coronâ*. Having finished, with much applause, his course of philosophy, he applied himself diligently to the study of physic, and how soon he became a proficient in that noble science, appeared from a letter of his, in 1699, to Dr. Sloane, concerning an *Hydrocephalus*, as also from another letter to the same gentleman, *De Spasmi rarioris Historiâ*; both which were inserted in the *Philosophical Transactions*. In 1703 he published his *Emmenologia*, a work, which justly procured him the highest reputation; and the next year was appointed professor of Chymistry in the university of Oxford. In 1705 he attended the earl of Peterborough to Spain, as physician to the army; and upon his return home about two years after, he wrote an account of the earl's conduct in that expedition. In 1707 he was created doctor of physic by Diploma; and, in 1709, he published his Chymical lectures. In 1712 he was admitted a member of the Royal Society; and, soon after, attended the duke of Ormond to Flanders, as his physician. In 1716, he was chosen a fellow of the college of Physicians in London; and the

the same year published the first, and third books of Hippocrates *de Morbis Popularibus*, with a *Commentary on Fevers*, written by himself. This piece gave occasion to a violent controversy between him and doctor Woodward, professor of physick in Gresham college, which was carried on partly in a serious, and partly in a ludicrous manner; but in both these ways of arguing Dr. Friend obtained an undisputed victory. In 1722 he was elected member of parliament for the borough of Launceston in Cornwall, when joining with the party in opposition to the government, and being suspected of having a hand in bishop Atterbury's plot, he was committed to the Tower on a charge of high treason; but was soon after released. It was during his confinement in that place, that he wrote an epistle to Dr. Mead *concerning some particular kinds of the Small-Pox*, and began his *History of Physick*, the first part of which was published in 1725, and the second the year following. Upon the accession of king George the Second to the throne, he was appointed physician in ordinary to the queen; but did not live long to enjoy that office; for he died of a fever July the 26th, 1728, in the fifty-second year of his age. His body was interred in the church of Hitcham in Buckinghamshire; and a monument was erected to him by his only son in Westminster-abbey. His works were published at London in 1733, in one volume folio, and dedicated to the queen, who had always entertained for him the highest regard.



NORTHUMBERLAND.

THIS is the old Saxon name of the county, which was written Northan-Humber-lond, signifying the land or county north of the Humber. It being formerly not only a district of larger extent than it is at present, comprehending Yorkshire, Durham, Lancaster, Westmoreland and Cumberland, as well as Northumberland, but was a distinct kingdom of the Saxon heptarchy. Northumberland as it is at present circumscribed, is a maritime county, that extends farther north than any of the others, it bordering on Berwick upon Tweed and Scotland, from which it is divided on the north by the river Tweed; on the east it is washed by the ocean; on the south by the river Derwent and Tyne, which separate it from the county of Durham; and on the west is bounded by Cumberland and part of Scotland: it extending in its utmost length from north to south about sixty-seven miles; from east to west in its broadest part forty, and is near one hundred and seventy miles in circumference; but the most northern and southern parts are very narrow, and the former is for a considerable space not twenty miles broad, and for some miles not even ten.

This, with some of the adjacent counties, was, in the time of the Romans, inhabited by the Ottadini, Ottadeni, or Ottatini, a people, supposed to have been thus called from their situation upon
the

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the river Tyne. These people, being uneasy under the Roman government, conspired with the Caledonians, in the reign of the emperor Severus, and threw off the yoke, at which that prince was so provoked, that having assembled his army in order to reduce them, he had the cruelty to order his soldiers to give them no quarter, but his death prevented the execution of this inhuman command, and the Britons were left masters of this province, till Theodosius, some time after landing in England, recovered it out of their hands. There are greater and more numerous monuments of the Romans inhabiting this county than any other can produce; besides Hadrian's vallum, and Severus's wall, Mr. Horsley has given above a hundred and twenty accurate cuts of inscriptions and sculptures found here.

After the Romans had withdrawn their forces, the Britons, who had been exhausted by the bravest of their youth having been sent abroad to fight the battles of the Romans, were obliged to call in the Saxons to assist them against the Scots and Picts; but when the Saxons had vanquished their enemies, they settled here themselves, and divided the south part of the island into seven kingdoms, of which Northumberland was one of the chief. It was first brought under the Saxon yoke by Offa, the brother of Hengist, and his son Jebusa.

This county lying on the borders of Scotland, whose inhabitants often made inroads into it, partly for conquest and partly for pillage, it was at length found necessary to constitute particular governors to guard and defend the borders, and these were called lords of the East, West, and Middle Marches. At the same time every man possessed of great wealth, found himself obliged to provide a castle for his own safety and defence.

The

The air of Northumberland is not so cold as might be imagined from its being situated so far to the north; for as it lies between the German and Irish seas, in the narrowest part of England, it has the advantage of being warmed by the sea vapours, and hence the snow seldom lies long, except in the most northern parts, and on the tops of all the high mountains; the air likewise is more salubrious than might be expected in a country bordering on the sea, as appears by the strength, robust health and longevity of the inhabitants. This advantage is attributed to the soil on the coasts, which being sandy and rocky, emit no such noxious vapours as those which constantly rise from mud and ouze.

This county is extremely well watered with fine rivers, the chief of which are the Tweed, the North and South Tyne, the Coquet, and the Read. The Tweed rises in Scotland, and running north-east, is joined by the Bowbent, the Bramish, the Till, and other smaller streams; it parts England from Scotland, and flows into the German sea at Berwick. The South Tyne rises near Alston-Moor in the north-east part of Cumberland, and running north-west to Featherston-Haugh, near Haltwessel, there forms an angle, bending its course north-eastward, and being joined by two small rivers, called the East and West Alon, joins the North Tyne near Hexham. The North Tyne, which is much the most considerable, rises in a mountain called Tyne-head, on the borders of Scotland, and flowing south-east, receives a small river, called the Shele; then continuing the same course, is joined by a considerable stream, called the Read; and having received the South Tyne, passes by Newcastle, and discharges itself into the German ocean below Tynmouth. The Coquet rises on the borders of Scotland,

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land, a little to the north of the source of the Read, and running eastward is joined by several streams, passes by Rothbury, and falls into the German ocean at Warkworth. The Read rises on a mountain, called Readsquire, and at its source is a considerable river; and after having run a considerable distance south-east, in which course it receives many other streams, it falls into the north Tyne near Billingham.

These rivers afford great plenty of fish, particularly trout and salmon. The Tweed in particular is so remarkable for the salmon fishery, that they frequently take great numbers at one draught, and they are so cheap, that a large salmon may be frequently purchased for a shilling, which is of great advantage to the poor housekeepers. However, this extraordinary plenty makes them so cloyed with this fine fish, that the servants when they are hired, usually bargain that they shall not be obliged to eat of this fish more than on certain days in the week. The lords of the manors bordering on the above rivers, have the property of the fishery, which they farm out to fishermen, who dry the greatest part of the salmon they catch, pickle a considerable quantity, and export both the dried and pickled beyond sea.

This county, particularly the western parts, are rough and mountainous, but yield grass for the feeding of sheep. On the tops of some of these mountains, especially on those in North Kindale and Readsdales, there are bogs, which it is dangerous for horsemen to ride over, yet the inhabitants have the art of bringing up their horses to cross them without danger, on which account they are usually called Bog-trotters.

We ought not to omit mentioning here the famous range of mountains on the borders of Scotland, called the Cheviot-hills, which are so high,
that

that on the north side of them, snow may be seen in some of their cliffs till Midsummer: they serve as land-marks at sea, and one of them, which is much higher than the rest, resembles at a distance, the famous pique of Teneriff, and may be plainly seen at the distance of sixty miles. On the summit of this mountain is a smooth, pleasant plain, about half a mile in diameter, with a large pond in the middle of it. Reedsdale is a large tract of ground very thinly inhabited, and is so called from the river Reed, which runs along its north and west sides, and falls into the North Tyne; we have also taken notice, that the high mountain called Reedsquire is the source of that river, from which it falls seventy feet into the valley. The jurisdiction of this dale, belonged to the family of Umfreville for many generations; and in it are a great many heaps of stones, called Laws, which the inhabitants believe to have been thrown together in remembrance of persons slain there.

The coal-pits in this county are extremely famous. It is called Sea-coal, from its being brought by sea to most of the maritime parts of Great Britain, as well as to France, Flanders, and other countries: the trade of this county, in coals, is therefore exceeding great, London alone consuming upwards of eight hundred thousand chaldrons in one year; but as this coal is dug from pits, it is as properly pit-coal as any other. Here are also mines of lead and copper, and the mountains produce great plenty of timber. As the heathy and mountainous parts, as we have already observed, afford good pasture for the sheep, the shepherds live in small huts called Sheals, or Shealings, and keep their flocks abroad almost all the summer. These mountains were formerly of great advantage to England, by defending that part of the country from the invasions of the Scots, and they
now

Now shelter the more fruitful parts of the county from the north and west winds.

The soil, as in other places, is different in different parts. Along the banks of the rivers, particularly the Tyne, there are large and rich meadows, and the land on the sea-coast, where it is well cultivated, yields great plenty of wheat and other grain.

The most extraordinary plants which grow wild in this county, are,

The dwarf honey-suckle, *Periclymenum humile*, C. B. *parvum Prutenicum Clusii*, J. B. On the west side of the north end of the highest of Cheviot-hills, in great plenty.

The sea-bugloss, *Echinum maritimum*, B. P. At Scrammerston-hills, between the salt-pans and Berwick, on the sea-beech, about a mile and a half from Berwick.

The lesser smooth broad-leaved coddled willow-herb, *Lysimachia filiquosa glabra minor latifolia*. On Cheviot-hills, by the springs and rivulets of water.

Winter-green with chick-weed flowers, *Pyrola alpes flore Europaea*, C. B. Park. *Herba trientalis*, J. B. On the other side of the Picts-wall, five miles beyond Hexham northwards; and among the heath upon the moist mountains, not far from Harbottle westward.

Horse-radish, *Rhaphanus rusticus*, Ger. Park. C. B. *sylvestris sive armoracia multis*, J. B. About Alnwick, and elsewhere in this county, in the ditches, and by the water-sides, growing in great plenty.

Common eryngo of the Midland, *Eryngium vulgare*, J. B. *vulgare & camerarii*, C. B. *Mediterraneum seu campestre*, Park. On the shore called Friar-geese, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

This

- This county, which is situated in the province of York, and diocese of Durham, has four hundred and sixty parishes, and is divided into six wards, in which are twelve market-towns, Alnewick, Belesford, Berwick, Ellefdon, Haltwessel, Hexham, Learmouth, Morpeth, Newcastle, Rothbury, Warkworth, and Woller. It sends eight members to parliament, that is, two knights of the shire for the county, and two representatives for each of the three following towns, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Morpeth, and Berwick-upon-Tweed.

We shall enter this county by the London road to Berwick, describing all the towns near the coast.

On crossing the river Tyne, the first town you come to is NEWCASTLE, from its situation, called NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, to distinguish it from Newcastle-under-Line in Staffordshire. It had its name from a castle built here by Robert, the eldest son of William the Conqueror, to defend the country against the Scots. In the time of the Saxons it was called Moncaster, from the monks that were here, who all fled when it was depopulated by the Danes. This is the principal town of the county. It is seated on the north bank of the river Tyne, at the distance of two hundred and seventy-six miles north by west of London, fourteen miles north of Durham, and eighty-four north by west of York. It has been a borough, at least ever since the reign of king Richard the Second, who granted the mayor the honour of having a sword carried before him; and king Henry the Sixth made it a town and county of itself, independant of Northumberland. It is at present governed by a mayor, nineteen aldermen, a recorder, a sheriff, a town-clerk, a clerk of the chamber, two coroners, eight chamberlains, a sword-bearer, who wears a cap of maintenance, a water-bailiff, who carries a large mace, and seven ser-
jeants

jeants at mace. This is one of the largest, most populous, and handsomest towns in the north of England: the most busy part of it, which lies towards the river, is very uneven, it being built on the declivity of a steep hill, and the houses very close together: but the upper or north part, which is inhabited by people in affluent circumstances, is much more pleasant, and has three level, well built, and spacious streets. The town is encompassed by a strong wall, in which are seven gates, and the same number of turrets, with several casemates bomb-proof, but the castle, which overlooks the whole town, is in a ruinous condition. Here are six churches and chapels, four of which are parochial. That of St. Nicholas, which is the mother church, is a curious structure, built in the manner of a cathedral, and has a fine steeple of uncommon architecture. Here are also several meeting-houses, a magnificent Exchange, and a handsome mansion-house for the mayor, a noble custom-house, and the finest quay in England, except that at Yarmouth. It has a stately bridge over the Tyne, consisting of seven very large arches, which leads into the county of Durham, in which its suburb, called Gates-head, is seated. On this bridge is built a large gate-house, where is an iron-gate to shut up the passage. This gate being at the extremity of the liberties of Newcastle, the arms of the town are carved in stone on the west side of it, and those of the bishopric of Durham on the east. This town has also a fine hall for the surgeons, an hospital for decayed freemen and their widows, and another for three clergymens widows, and three merchants widows, with charity-schools for three hundred children, and a large-prison called Newgate. Dr. Thomlinson, prebendary of St. Paul's in London, gave a library of above six thousand valuable

valuable books to the corporation, and settled a rent-charge of five pounds a year for ever, for purchasing new books; and Walter Blacket, Esq; has erected a repository for them, and settled twenty-five pounds a year for ever, for the support of a librarian. The town has a market on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and two fairs, which last nine days each, on the 12th of August, and the 29th of October, during the three first days, for horned cattle, sheep and hogs, and the rest of the time for cloth, woollen, and various other goods.

Here are many glass-houses, and a considerable manufacture of hard-ware, which are advantages particularly owing to the coals, of which the salt-works at Sheals, in its neighbourhood, consume amazing quantities, and the fires make such a smoak, that it may be seen in huge clouds over the hills at many miles distance. There are also at Newcastle several ship-yards, where vessels for the coal-trade are built in great perfection. The trade of this town in coals, exclusive of other traffick, employs above six thousand keelmen or coal-lightermen, who have here formed themselves into a friendly society, and by their own contributions, erected an hospital for such of their fraternity as are disabled, either by age or accident. This place is also famous for grind-stones; but the fish sold in London by the name of Newcastle salmon, is taken in the Tweed, and sent to Sheals, a small port, at the mouth of the Tyne, seven miles to the eastward of Newcastle, and there pickled, and put on board vessels for exportation. The town is said to have the greatest public revenue, in its own right as a corporation, of any town in England, it being computed at 8000 l. a year.

The

The river Tyne is so deep at Newcastle, as to carry vessels of a considerable burthen, without any danger from shallows, except at the bar of Tinmouth, where a sand-bank lies across the mouth of the river, not above seven feet deep at low-water; and there are about it dangerous rocks, called the Black-Middins; but the Trinity-house of Newcastle have erected two light-houses to direct ships in the night-time, and to prevent any danger from the Middins. Near them was built in 1672 a fortification, called Clifford's fort, which commands all the vessels that enter the river. The mouth of the river is also defended by Tinmouth-castle, which is situated on a very high rock, inaccessible on the side next the sea, and well mounted with cannon.

Newcastle had several religious houses erected since the time of the conquest, particularly an hospital dedicated to the Virgin Mary, supposed to have been founded in the reign of king Henry the First, but enlarged and endowed by one Asselack, about the end of the reign of king Henry the Second, and annexed to St. Mary of Westgate. Near Westgate was another hospital dedicated to the Virgin Mary, as old as the time of king Henry the Third, consisting of a master and six brethren, whose revenues, at the time of the suppression, annually amounted to 26*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* In the time of king Henry the Third here was a priory of brethren de Poenitentia Jesu Christi, seated in a part of the town, called Constable-Garth. Between Westgate and Newgate was a house of Black friars, founded about the year 1260, by Sir Peter Scot, and his son Nicholas: and near Pandon gate, stood a house of Greyfriars, founded before the year 1300. Near the town was a small Benedictine nunnery dedicated

to St. Bartholomew, as old as the time of William the Conqueror, which, at the dissolution, had ten nuns, and a revenue amounting to 36 l. a year. Without the walls of the town was likewise a priory, or hospital, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, of a master and brethren, founded by king Henry the First. This hospital is still in being, and consists of a master, and three poor brethren, each of whom has 3 l. 6 s. a year.

Before we entirely leave Newcastle, it will be proper to observe, as a proof of the salubrity of the air, in that part of the county, that in 1743, two old men, the father and son, were subpoenaed to an assize held in that town, as witnesses from a neighbouring village; the father was one hundred and thirty-five years of age, and his son ninety-five, both of them hearty, and retaining their sight and hearing; and the next year, one Adam Turnbull died in Newcastle, aged one hundred and twelve, who had married four wives, and the last when he was near a hundred years of age.

At FENNAM, a small village near Newcastle, some coal-pits are said to have been burning several years. The flames are visible at night, and may be traced in the day by the sulphur on the ground.

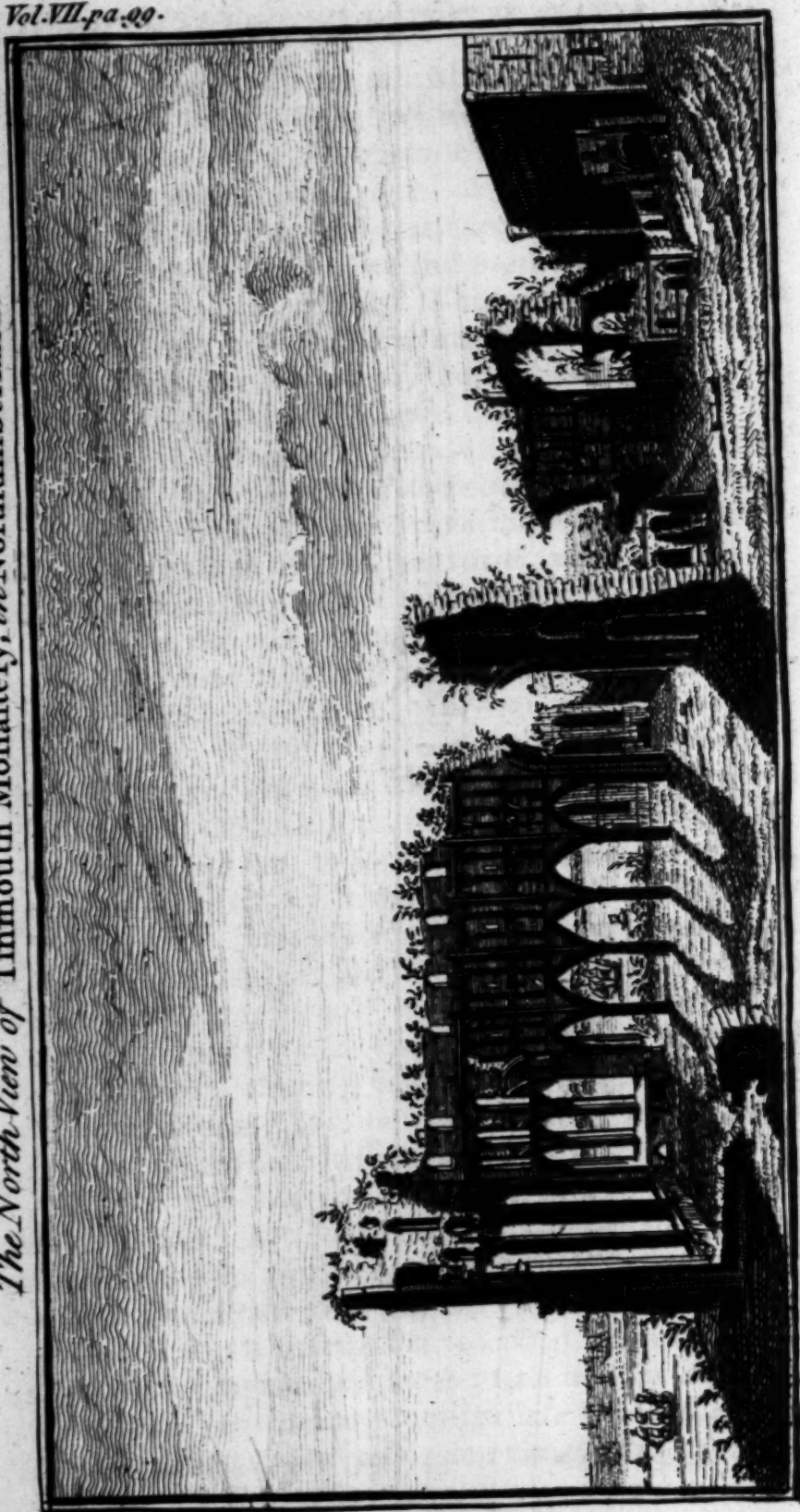
At BENWELL, also near Newcastle, several urns have been dug up with coins in them; one of these urns has been deposited in the library at Durham, where it still remains entire.

We shall now return to TINMOUTH, which was called by the Britons Pen-bor-crag, that is, the Head of the rampart upon the rock, whence some maintain that Adrian's ditch, if not Severus's wall, reached as far as this place: but Horsley is of opinion, that the wall at this end terminated in a station near Cousin's house, the ruins of it being there very plain: and adds, the ancient



The North View of Tinnmouth Monastery, in Northumberland.

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cient name of this station was Segedunum, the first of the stations per lineam valli, where, according to the Notitia, the first cohort of the Lergi were quartered : but in the time of the Saxon heptarchy, this place was called Tunnacester, from its situation on the river Tyne. Here was a priory of Benedictine monks, founded by Robert de Moubray, a Norman of noble extraction, whom William the Conqueror made earl of Northumberland. David, king of Scots, Henry the First and Second, and John, kings of England, granted to this monastery many lands and great liberties. And Tofti, earl of York, brother to king Harold, enlarged them. King Edward the Third being displeased with the monks, seized on their possessions ; but was the next year reconciled, and restored them, through the devout respect he paid the martyrs St. Alban and St. Oswin, which Oswin, king and martyr, lies buried in this abbey ; afterwards the above Robert de Moubray gave for it a cell to the monks of St. Alban's. The remains of this monastery, of which we have given a view, shew that it was a stately building, there being great part of one end, and of a single wall still standing, but the rest is entirely demolished. The revenues of the above priory were valued at 387 l. 10 s. 5 d. a year, by Dugdale ; and at 511 l. 4 s. 1 d. by Speed. With respect to the castle, we have already taken notice of it, in describing the harbour of Newcastle, and the mouth of the Tyne.

The Picts-wall beginning on the east of Newcastle, extends westward across the county into Cumberland ; but as we have already given a particular description of the present state of that wall, in its extent quite across the kingdom, as well as of the wall of earth begun by the emperor Adrian, which accompanies it in its course, in treat-

ing of the antiquities of Cumberland, we shall not here take up the reader's attention, by repeating what has been already said.

At a small distance to the northward of Tinmouth is CULLERCOATS, which is only remarkable for having a very commodious little port of artificial construction. It is dry at low-water mark, and only serves for coals and salt belonging to the works of particular persons, at whose expence it was constructed.

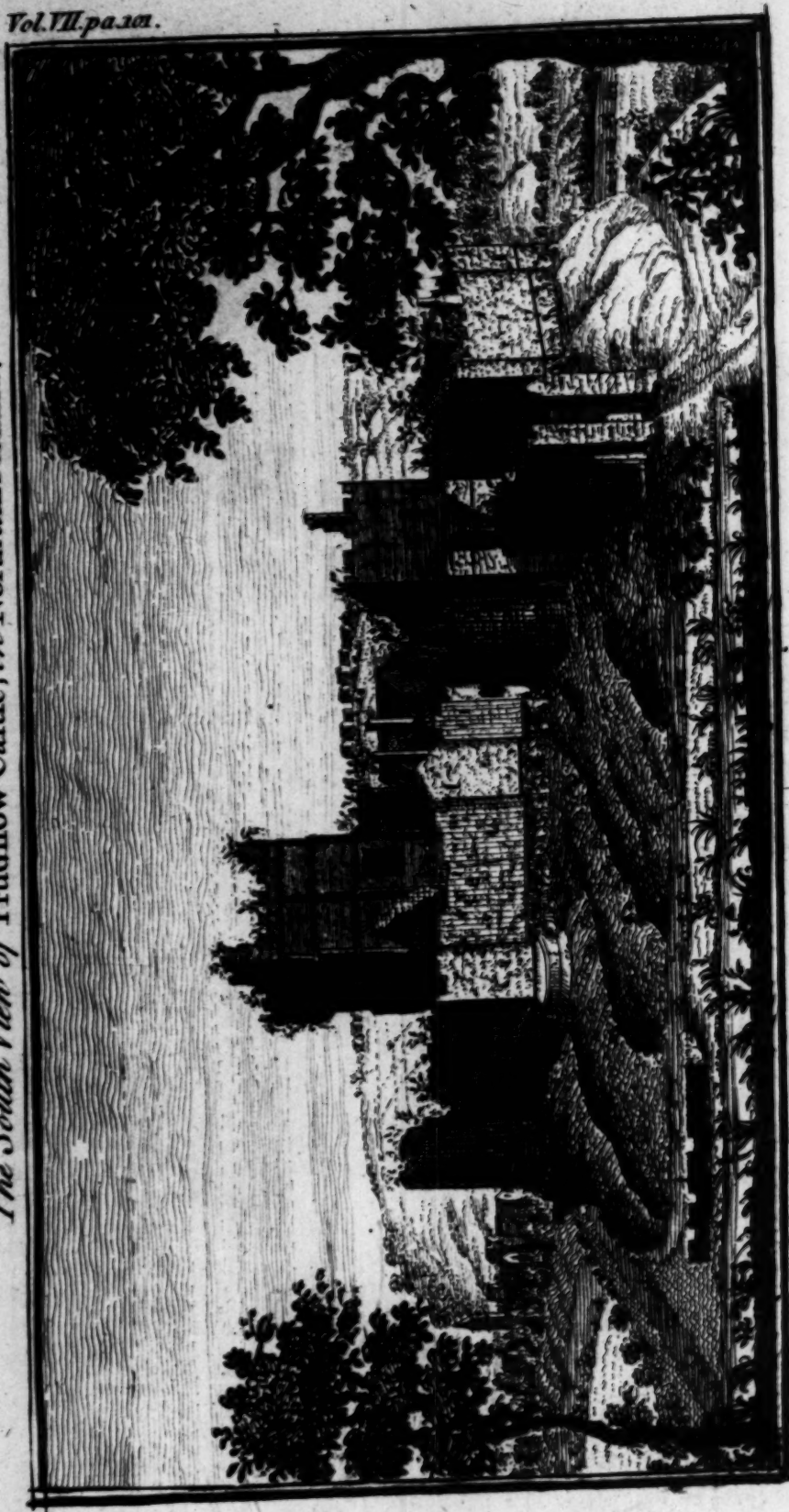
Five miles north-west of Tinmouth is SEASON-SLUICE, another artificial port, formed by Ralph Delaval, an able admiral of the last century, on his own plan, and entirely at his own expence, for the benefit of himself and his friends, but without excluding others who chose to use it. In constructing this small harbour he found great difficulties, which exercised his skill and patience; a stone pier, which covered it from the north-east wind, was more than once carried away by the sea; and on his overcoming this difficulty, by using timber as well as stone, he found a new inconvenience, his port filling up with mud and sand, though a pretty rapid stream ran through it. To remove this, he placed a strong sluice with flood-gates upon his brook, which being shut by the coming in of the tide, the water behind collected itself into a body, and forcing a passage at the ebb, carried all before it, and thus twice in twenty-four hours scoured the bed of the harbour clean. This port, though sometimes called Season-Sluice, is more commonly termed Season-Delaval, from the name of the ingenious gentleman who formed it. It admits small vessels, yet larger vessels may lie safe, and receive their lading in the road.

PRUDHOW is a town and castle, pleasantly seated on the ridge of a hill, eight miles to the west of
of



The South View of Prudhow Castle, in Northumberland.

Vol. VIII. pa. 101.



of Newcastle, and about two from the wall; Camden would have it to be the Procolitia of the Romans; but that has been more properly placed at Carrabrugh. This castle was famous for its resisting all attempts against it. King Henry the First gave it to Gilbert de Umfranville, which, for many succeeding reigns, continued in that name. In Henry the Second's reign Odonell de Umfranville bravely defended it against William, king of the Scots, who, ambitious of conquering so strong a place, laid close siege against it; but by its own strength, and the help of Robert de Stutevil, he was repulsed, and it continued as before in that family for many succeeding ages. In the reign of Henry the Sixth it was given to Henry, earl of Northumberland, who was afterwards slain in the battle of St. Alban's, fighting for the Lancastrian line. Henry his son espousing the same cause, forfeited most of his possessions, and this castle was given to Robert, lord Ogle, for life; afterwards it came again to the earls of Northumberland, in whose posterity it still continues. Most of the walls have suffered greatly, only the square tower in the middle, and a lesser one at the end, seem to be pretty entire, as the reader will see from the view we have given of these ruins.

From Newcastle a road extends fourteen miles northward to MORPETH, which is seated upon a small river called the Wentsbeck, at the distance of two hundred and ninety-one miles north by west of London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, governed by two bailiffs, and seven aldermen: the two bailiffs are chosen out of four persons presented by the free burgesses to the lord of the manor's steward, who holds a court here twice a year. This town has a bridge over the Wentsbeck, which runs almost through the middle of it. The church is on the south side of the

river, and near it, on a shadyhill, is the castle, now in ruins. It is a post town, and being a great thoroughfare to the north, has several good inns, and an elegant town-house, built by a late earl of Carlisle. It has a very good market on Wednesdays, for corn and provisions; and this is the most considerable market in England for cattle, except Smithfield in London. It has also two fairs, the first held on the Wednesday, Thursday and on Friday seven-night before Whit-Sunday, that is, on Wednesday, for horned cattle, on Thursday for sheep, and on Friday, for horses; the other fair is on the Wednesday before the 22d of July, for a few horned cattle, and is very small.

At NEWMINSTER, near Morpeth, was an abbey of Cistercian monks, founded and endowed by Ralph de Morlay, and Julian his wife, in the year 1138, besides whom it had many other benefactors. It had fifteen religious at the suppression, and possessions of the annual value of 140 l.

Three miles east of Morpeth is BOTHAL castle, which was built by Robert Bertram, governor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and sheriff of Northumberland, who, in the reign of Edward the Third, obtained leave to convert his manor-house into a castle, but having no male issue, Helen, his daughter and heiress, marrying Sir Robert Ogle, Knight, transferred this barony to his family. Afterwards his son Robert settled it upon his younger son John, whom he surnamed Bertram, being desirous that his estate should go in that name, and his posterity enjoyed it till the male issue failing in Cuthbert, lord Ogle, Catharine, his daughter and heiress, married Sir Charles Cavendish, Knight, by which means it came into the possession of the family of the earl of



The East View of Widdrington Castle, in Northumberland.

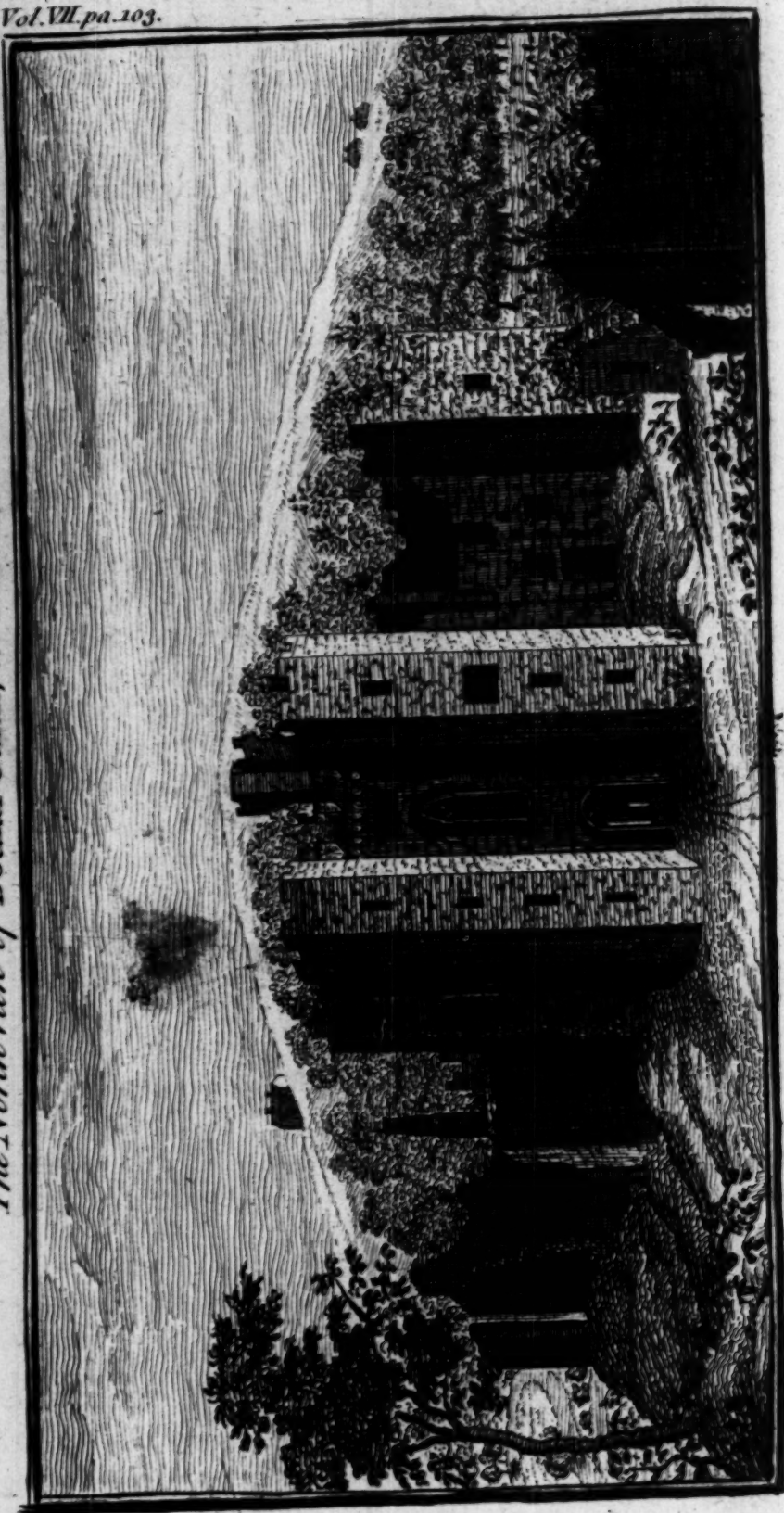
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The North View of Bothal Castle, in Northumberland.

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of Oxford. A good part of it is still remaining, and shews that it was formerly a strong handsome structure, much more regularly built than castles generally were in those times; but it is not impossible that it may have been rebuilt since, tho' history takes no notice of it. That part which seems to have been the gatehouse is entire, and kept in good repair. Of this castle we have given the reader an engraved view.

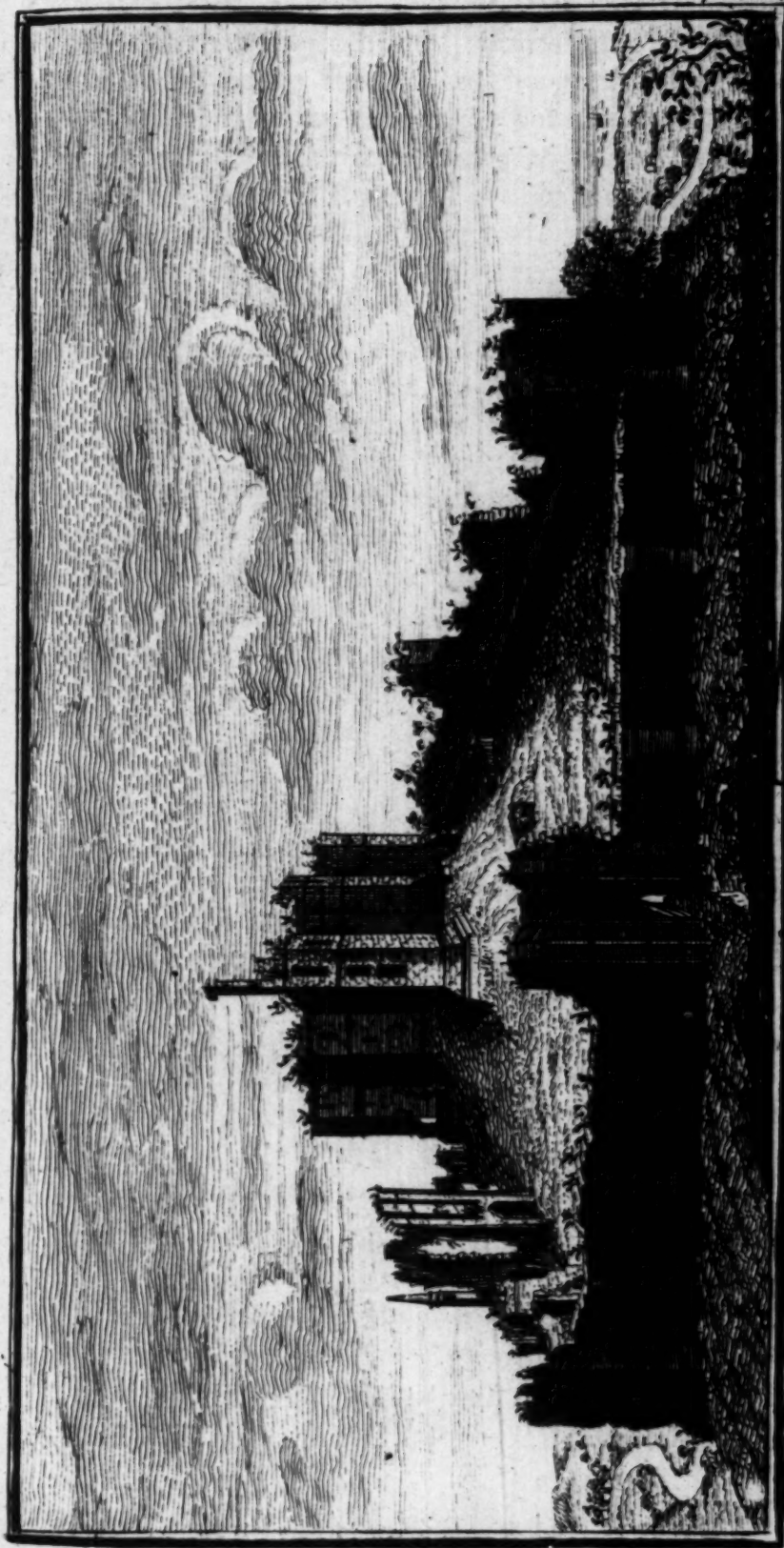
About four miles to the north-east of Bothal castle is WIDDRINGTON-castle, which has been many years in the possession of the family of that name, one of whom, Roger de Widdrington, was sheriff of the county of Northumberland in the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Edward the Third, and by descent in a direct line, came to Sir William Widdrington, Knt. who was advanced by king Charles the First to the dignity of a baron of this realm, but lost his life in Lancashire, fighting to restore king Charles the Second. It is a very handsome ancient seat, of a very singular architecture. The middle part is adorned at the top with round turrets of a very unusual construction, and at the top of the battlements are figures, which, at a distance, have the appearance of tall statues, though in reality they are quite otherwise; however, taken altogether, it is a delightful country-seat. Of this structure we have also caused a view to be engraved.

From hence a road extends eight miles to the river Coquet, which has a bridge, six miles to the north-east of which is WARKWORTH, a town seated at the mouth of the Coquet, with a very beautiful castle built on the bank of that river, which partly surrounds it; it stands very near the sea, and is the best built and most entire of any

in these parts. This was the seat of a branch of the ancient family of the Claverings, which John de Clavinger settled, together with his estate after his decease, on king Edward the Second, and his heirs. It continued in the crown till the reign of Edward the Third, who gave the castle and lands belonging to it to Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, and his heirs, to which noble family it still belongs. Of this castle we have likewise here given an engraved view.

At this town, near the mouth of the Coquet, is an hermitage cut out of the solid rock, by the side of the river. The roof is arched, and the sides decorated with pillars in the Gothic taste. It is divided into two apartments, each of the same size; one of these seems to have been a lodging room, and the other a chapel, at the east end of which is an altar, and over it a cross cut in the wall. In the window is the figure of a woman at full length, in a recumbent posture. At one end of this figure is another that appears weeping, and at the other end is a bull's head. This town has a market on Thursdays, and two fairs, held on April 25, if on Thursday, but if not, on the Thursday before, for hats, shoes, pedlars goods, linen and woollen cloth; and on November 22, if it falls on Thursday, but if not, on the Thursday before, for horned cattle, shoes, hats and pedlars goods.

About four miles south-east of Warkworth is COQUET island, which is about a mile in length, but narrow. The air is very unwholesome, and the land barren, but the shoals of fish that are commonly about it, make work for the fishermen. It has no other inhabitants but a few colliers, who have their huts, for coal is said to be very plentiful in the island; some even say that there is no
more



The South West View of Warkworth Castle, in Northumberland.



more than a single house, which may be the reason of its being frequented by great numbers of wild-fowl that lay their eggs here in great plenty, of which the fishermen make considerable advantage, by selling them to the inhabitants of the neighbouring coast. They are of all sizes and colours, for some of them are said to be larger than those of geese, and others of the size of hens-eggs, and as well tasted; but this seems to be an exaggeration, for we know of no birds on the coast of England that lay eggs of that size. In ancient times there was a castle here, and also a cell of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the monastery of Tinnmouth.

At the distance of five miles to the west of the road is ROTHBURY, which is seated on the north bank of the Coquet, and is only remarkable for a charity-school, erected for teaching one hundred and twenty children. It had anciently a market on Thursdays, which is now discontinued, or is at least very small, but it has still four fairs, held on Friday in Easter-week, Whit-Monday, the 2d of October, and the 1st of November, for horned cattle, linen and woollen cloth.

At BRENKHORN, or BRINKBURN, near Rothbury, was a priory of canons regular of the order of St. Augustin, founded in the reign of king Henry the First, by Osbert Colutarius, on a piece of ground given by William Bertram, baron of Mitford. At the time of its suppression it had ten religious, and revenues amounting to 68l. 19s. 1d.

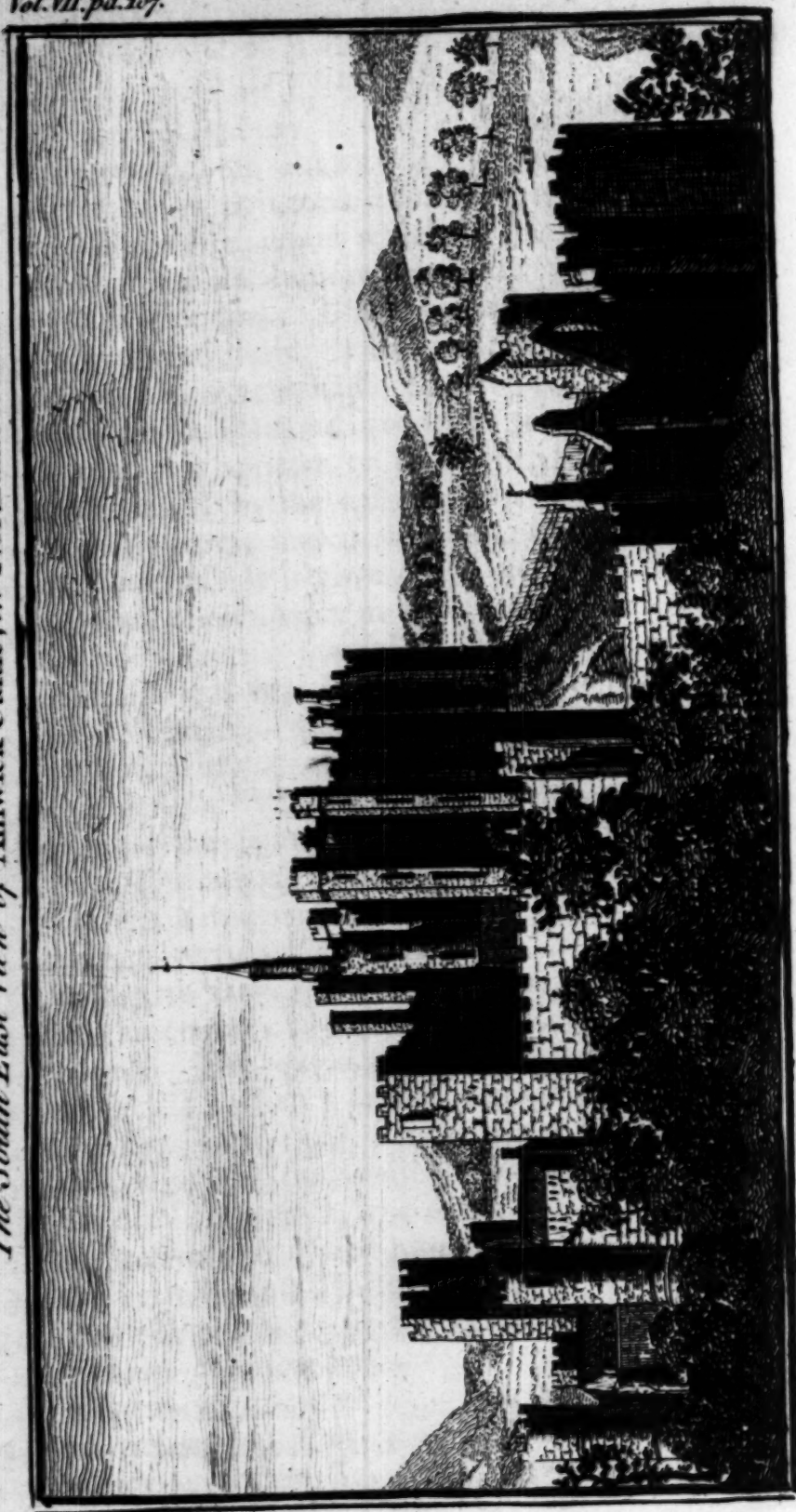
HARBOTTLE, a village eight miles west of Rothbury, has a fair on September 19, for horned cattle, great quantities of linen, woollen and Scotch cloth.

From Rothbury a road extends ten miles to ALNWICK, or ALNEWICK, commonly called ANWICK, which took its name from a small river called the Aln, upon which it stands, at the distance of three hundred and ten miles north by west of London. The town is populous, and in general well built: it has a large town-house, in which the quarter sessions, and county courts are held, and a spacious square, in which the market is kept. It appears to have been formerly a fortified town, by the vestiges of a wall still visible in many parts, and three gates, which remain almost entire. It is governed by four chamberlains, who are chosen once in two years out of the twenty-four common-council. It has a large castle, which is still kept in repair, and is a strong, well built, beautiful structure, adorned with turrets, on which are a number of handsome statues. In the reign of William Rufus, Malcolm the Third, king of the Scots, coming hither to concert with that prince about affairs relating to both kingdoms, and not being entertained with that pomp he expected, returned in displeasure, and immediately raising an army, marched into England, ravaging all the country as far as this castle, which he besieged. The garrison was on the point of surrendering, when a soldier promised to deliver him the keys on the point of his spear, which he pretended to do; but while he was stretching out his hand to take them, the soldier ran the spear into his body, and killed him. This castle likewise held out against William, king of Scotland, who was obliged to raise the siege. King Henry the Second confirmed this castle and barony to Eustace Fitz John, whose posterity took the name of Vesey, and after many successions, William de Vesey becoming heir, and dying without legitimate



The South East View of Alnwick Castle, in Northumberland.

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mate issue, empowered Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham, to preserve this castle, and divers lands, for his natural son, who was in Ireland, and under age; but on some pretence he sold the castle, and honour of Alnwick, to Henry Percy, from whom the earls of Northumberland are descended, in which family it still remains.

As the audits for the receipt of rents twice a year have been generally held at this castle, it has been always kept in tolerable repair, and it has been thoroughly repaired and beautified, by the present earl of Northumberland, who has made very considerable alterations upon a most elegant plan, with a view to reside in it during some part of the summer season. Of this structure we have caused a view to be engraved.

In this town was also an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, founded and endowed in 1147, by Eustace St. John, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the dissolution had an annual revenue, according to Dugdale, of 189l. 15s. and, according to Speed, of upwards of 197l.

Alnwick has a market on Saturdays, and five fairs held on Palm-Sunday-eve, for hats, shoes, and pedlars goods; on May 12, for horned cattle, horses, and pedlars goods; on the last Monday in July, for horned cattle, horses, linen, and woollen cloth; on the first Tuesday in October, for horned-cattle, horses, and pedlars goods; and on the Saturday before Christmas day, for shoes, hats, poultry, and woollen cloth.

It is said, that every person who takes up his freedom in the town of Alnwick, is, by a clause in the charter of that place, obliged to jump into a neighbouring bog, in which a person will sometimes sink to the chin. This custom is said to have been imposed by king John, who travelling

this way, and leaving the road on account of its being very bad, his horse stuck in this very bog, on which he took this method to punish the people of the town for not keeping the road in better order.

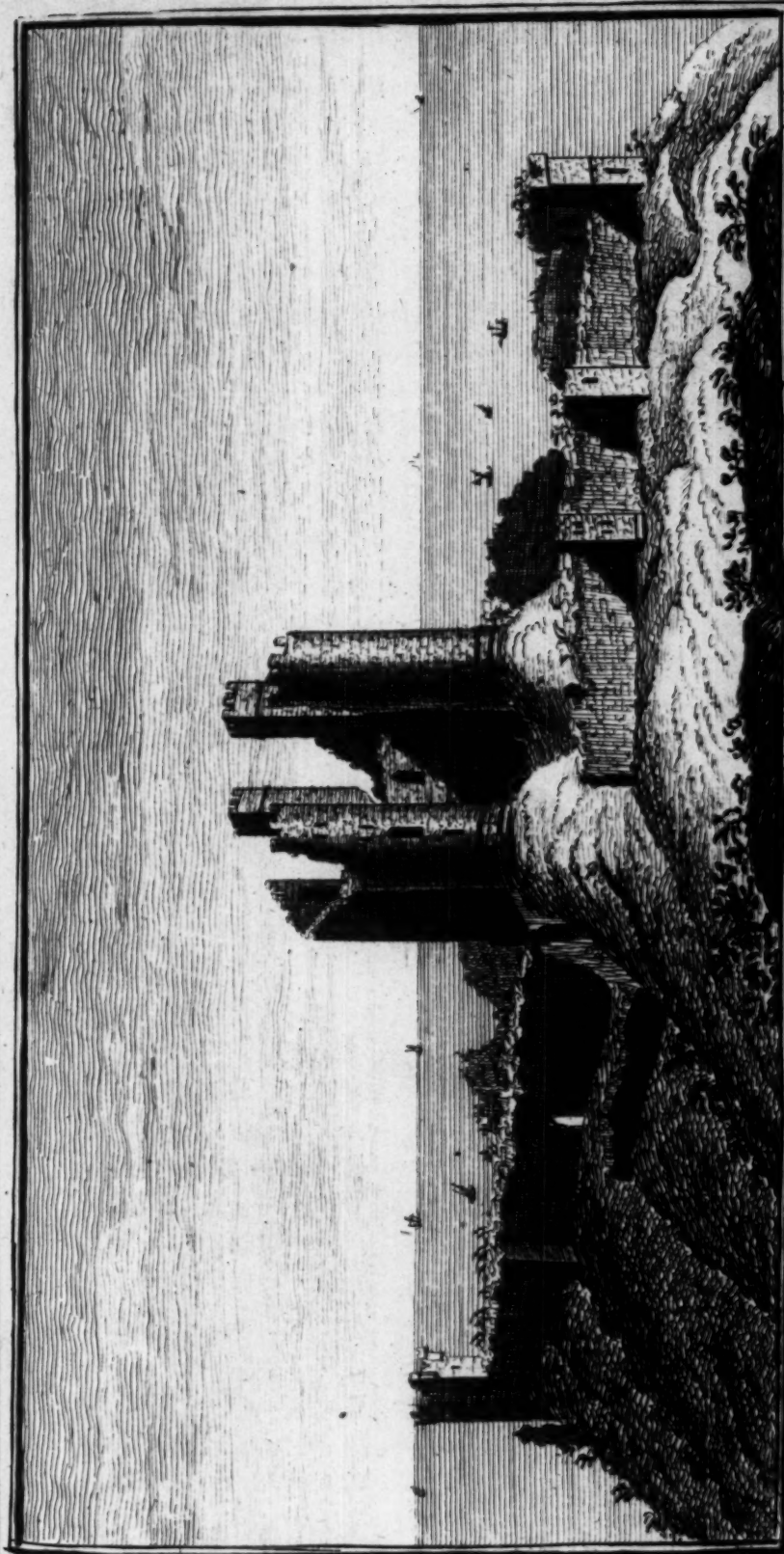
Five miles south-east of Alnwick is **ALE-MOUTH**, or **ALNMOUTh**, which is seated about two miles north of Warkworth, at the mouth of the Aln, and is a sea-port, whence large quantities of corn are annually shipped. It is said, that on the banks of this river, near the town, the bones of men of a prodigious size have been discovered; but this is a common mistake, they being doubtless the bones of some large animal.

About three miles north-west of Alnwick is **HULL** abbey, which has a park belonging to it, and was lately purchased by the earl of Northumberland. There are still to be seen here the remains of several chapels, and a square tower of neat workmanship.

About three miles north-east of Alnwick stands **Howick**, the seat of Sir Henry Grey, Bart. The situation of this seat is extremely pleasant, it having a fine prospect of the sea to the east, and of the country to the south, and is well sheltered to the north, both by nature and art.

Four miles to the northward of Howick is **DUNSTANBOROUGH** castle, which is seated on the banks of the sea, seven miles north-east of Alnwick, and was the capital seat of a barony, sometimes called the barony of Emildon. It was built in the reign of king Edward the First, by Thomas, earl of Lancaster, the son of Edmund Crouchback, earl of Lancaster, brother to the said king. It is situated on an inaccessible rock overlooking the sea, and beautifully adorned with various towers, part of which are still remaining.

It



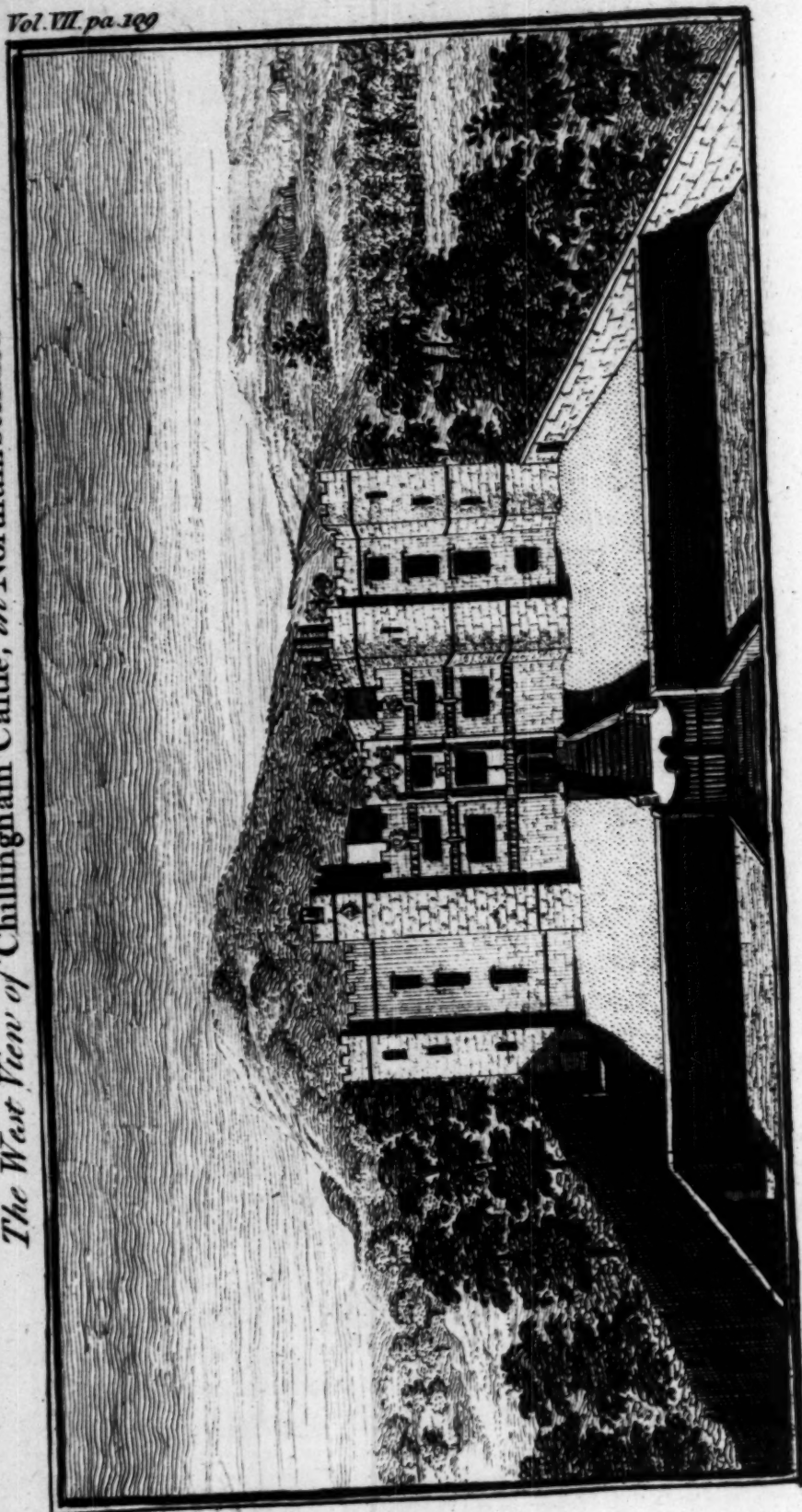
A View of Dunstanburgh Castle, in Northumberland.





The West View of Chillingham Castle, in Northumberland.

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It was anciently a very strong and spacious fortress, it being, by means of a deep ditch, surrounded by the sea. In the reign of Edward the Fourth it endured a long siege, and was at last reduced, and all the garrison, except Sir Piers de Cressley the commander, made prisoners. This castle and barony formerly belonged to the dutchy of Lancaster, but they are now in the possession of the earl of Tankerville. For the satisfaction of the reader, we have here annexed a view of this edifice.

About ten miles west of Alnwick, and near the source of the river Aln, stands ESHINGTON, a seat of the lord Ravensworth, where the family resides during some months of the sporting season.

Leaving the direct road to Berwick, we shall take the north-west road which leads to Wooller. A little to the north of this road, at the distance of about ten miles from Alnwick, is CHILLINGHAM castle, which was for many ages the seat of the chief of the family of the Greys, barons of Wark. It is a manor within the barony of Wooller, and is now a seat of the earl of Tankerville. This structure, of which we have here given a view, is a large old building, of a quadrangular form, kept in good repair, and well furnished. It has a large park, in which is great plenty of deer, and a kind of wild cattle, which are all white, except their ears, and the tips of their horns, which are brown, and their mouths, which are black; they are extremely fierce, and will scarce suffer any body to approach them, except in hard winters, when they are subdued by hunger, and then they will suffer the keeper of the park to feed them; but they no sooner procure plenty of food than they become as wild and furious as before. Their flesh is excellent beef,
and

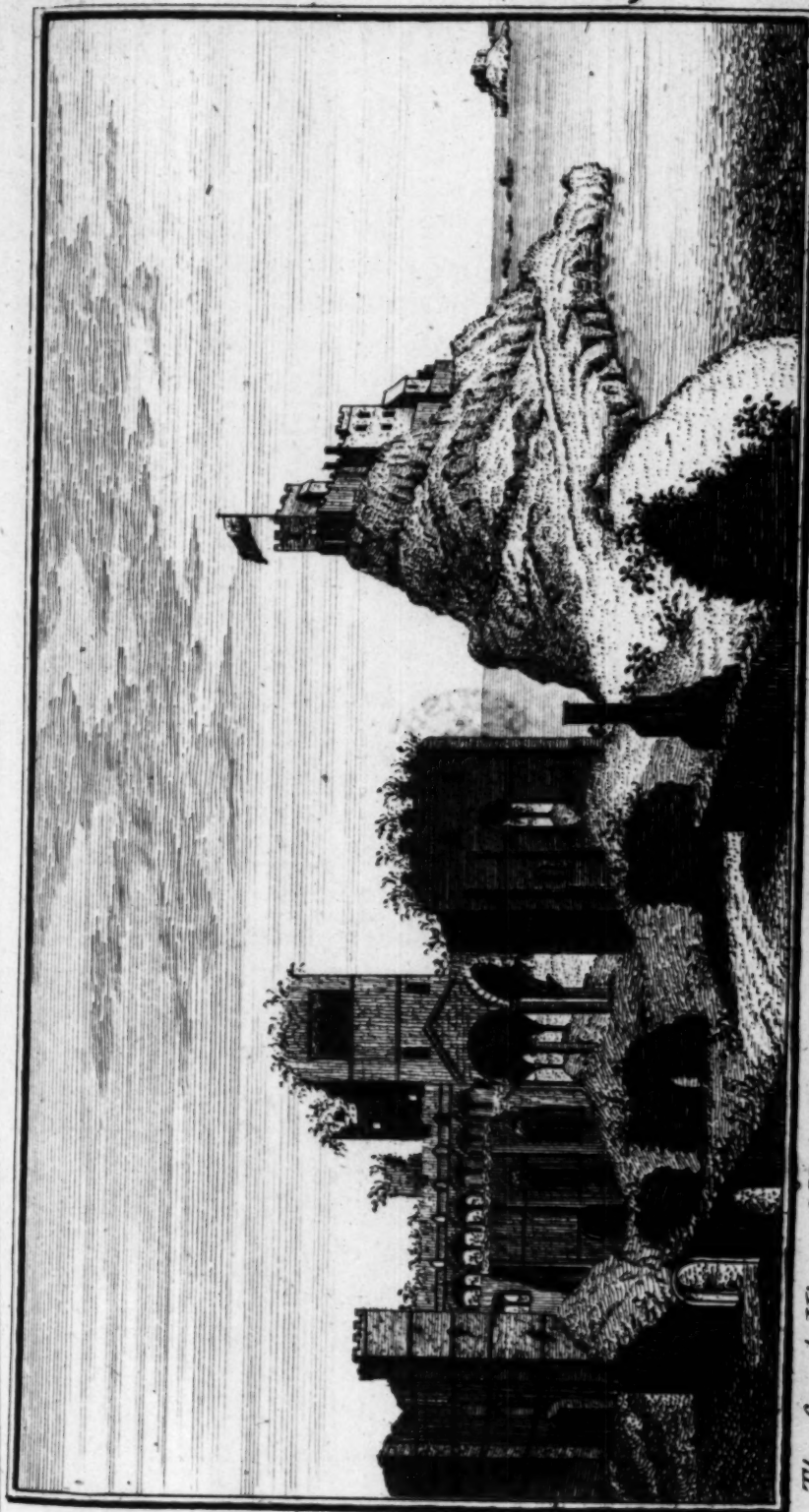
and when any of them are to be killed, the keeper is obliged to shoot them.

Five miles to the north-west of the above castle, and fourteen miles north-west of Alnwick, is WOLLER, or WOOLLER, which is seated on the side of a hill, upon the river Till, which falls into the Tweed. It is a poor place, and even the church is covered with thatch. It has, however, a market on Thursdays, and two fairs, held on the 14th of May, and the 17th of October, for horned-cattle, horses, sheep, and mercantile goods.

About five miles north-east of Woller is BELFORD, which is seated on the post road from Alnwick, about thirteen miles north of that town. It is a post town, where a market is held on Thursdays, and has two fairs, on the Tuesday before Whit-Sunday, and on the 23d of August, for horned-cattle, sheep, and horses.

Five miles north-east of Belford is LINDISFARN, or HOLY-ISLAND, which Bede says is twice an island, and twice a continent in twenty-four hours, it being every tide encompassed with water. Towards the north-west it is narrow, and abandoned to the rabbits; but on the south it is broader, and contains a pretty town, with a castle and a church, and was anciently a bishop's see: for in the year 635, king Oswald gave the island of Lindisfarn to St. Aidan, upon which it was erected into a bishop's see, with a chapter of an abbot and monks. The cathedral was dedicated to St. Peter, and continued till the year 875, during which time it had eleven successive bishops, but when the Danes ravaged and plundered the sea-coasts, they did not spare this island, which caused the bishop and monks to forsake it; on which the Danes burnt down the church and monastery, and left the island a mere desert. A
small

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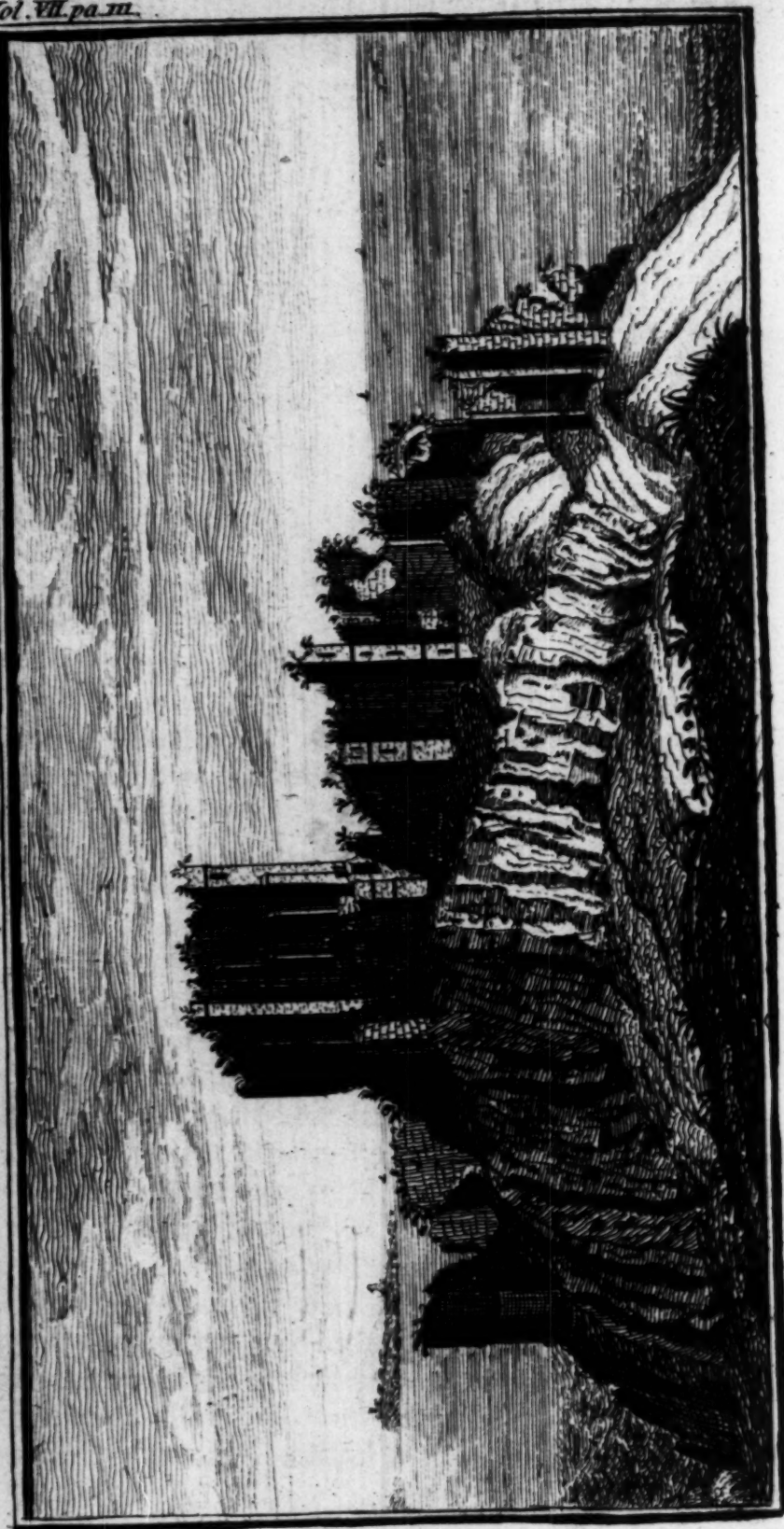
The South View of Holy Island Monastery and Castle in the County of Northumberland.





The South West View of Banburgh Castle, in Northumberland.

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A small monastery was built here afterwards, which was inhabited by many Scotch and English. Ceowolph, king of Northumberland, abdicated his throne, and became a monk in this island, but he could not live in the austere manner that the rest did, but indulged himself in drinking ale and wine, which they were obliged to allow him. This opened the way for the same allowance to the other monks, which was at length changed into scenes of riot. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, many accusations were brought against the monks of this island, not only upon this account, but for their lewdness. The revenues of this monastery were valued at the dissolution at 48 l. 11 s. 11 d. Under the town is a commodious harbour, defended by a fort, erected upon a hill to the south-east.

About eleven miles east of Wooller is BAMBURGH, which is a town seated near the sea-coast. It has a castle built by Ida, the first king of Northumberland, who fenced it with a wooden empailure; but afterwards being found of importance in defending the northern parts against the continual incursions of the Scots, it was repaired and made a place of great strength, and was always kept well manned, and provided with ammunition. Bressly, the stout Norman, in the civil wars between York and Lancaster, destroyed the beauty of this castle, and almost demolished it, since which it has been continually running to decay; yet the lord of the manor still holds his courts leet and baron in a corner of it. Of the ruins of this castle we have given a view. Roger Havedon tells us, that Bamburgh was a very strong city, but not very large, for it contained no more than two or three acres of ground. It had but one hollow entrance into it, which was wonder-

wonderfully raised by steps; and at the top of the hill stood a fair church. It was afterwards totally ruined and plundered by the Danes, in 933; but it was soon repaired and made a place of great strength. After this we find little or no account of it in history. About two miles to the east of Bamburgh castle is FARN island, which is bordered with a ridge of rocks, and in the middle of it is a fort. This island has also a tower, and a light-house, for the direction of sailors. Here it is said Cuthbert, bishop of Lindisfarn, erected a small building, which he encompassed with a wall about the height of a man, but he made it higher within by sinking the rock. It was built with rough unpolished stone and turf, and had two houses, a chapel, and a room for common uses. At the harbour is a large house, in which the monks who came to visit St. Cuthbert were lodged. To the north of this island is a cluster of very small islands and rocks.

Two miles north-east of Wooller is HORTON castle, which for many ages was in the possession of a branch of the family of Grey, of Chillingham, barons of Wark. Sir John Grey of Horton, going into the war in France, with Henry the Fifth, took by storm the castle of Tankerville in Normandy; for which service king Henry created him earl of Tankerville, and knight of the garter. The two families afterwards became united, and upon the death of Ralph, late lord Grey, the castle devolved to Henry Grey, Esq; It has nothing of the appearance of an ancient castle, except its being built with stone, in a somewhat antique manner. It is now a very handsome country seat.

Twelve miles north by west of Belford is BERWICK, which was originally called Aberwick, a word,

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word, which in the ancient British tongue, signifies a fort at the mouth of a river: but according to others, it was called by the Saxons Beornicawic, which signifies the town of the Bernicians, this part of the country being anciently called Bernicia; others again derive the name from Berwica, which signifies a corn-farm, there being great plenty of grain in the adjacent country. Berwick is pleasantly situated on the south side of an easy declivity, on the north coast of the river Tweed, about half a mile from its conflux with the sea, three hundred and thirty-nine miles north by west of London, and fifty-three south-east of Edinburgh. Indeed it is not properly in this county, or even in England, for in acts of parliament, and in briefs, it is always distinguished from England, as a town separate, both from this kingdom and from Scotland. It formerly belonged to Scotland, and was the chief town of a county in that kingdom, still called Berwickshire, and was one of the four towns, in which the convention of the royal boroughs of Scotland were held. It was first taken from the Scots by king Edward the First, and has been several times taken and retaken by both nations; but ever since the reign of Edward the Fourth, it has been in the possession of the English. The language and laws of its inhabitants are, however, a mixture of Scotch and English. It has had several charters, some of which are as ancient as the reign of Henry the Fifth, but the inhabitants were incorporated by king Charles the First, and are governed by a mayor, four bailiffs, a recorder, and a common-council.

Berwick, which is a town and county of itself, had a castle, which is now in ruins; but has still a wall built round it by order of queen Elizabeth;
and

and is farther strengthened by its situation, it being almost encompassed by the river and the sea. The barracks form a large regular square, and will conveniently lodge two regiments of foot. It is a large, well built, populous town, and has a beautiful bridge over the river Tweed, which consists of fifteen arches, and is nine hundred and forty-seven feet in length. This bridge leads to a suburb, called Tweed-mouth, where there is another church: and between the town walls and the castle is a suburb, called Castlegate. It has also an exchange and a good town-house, which has a lofty turret, in which is a ring of eight bells, and a fine clock that has four dials. The harbour is but indifferent, and navigable only to the bridge, though it is within a mile and a half of a bar, that lies before the mouth of the river; and the tide flows four miles above the town. The sea, over the bar, has not depth enough for any ships that draw above twelve feet water, nor is there any good riding near it in the offings. Berwick has a charity-school, a considerable manufactory of stockings, a great salmon fishery, and a considerable market on Saturdays, for corn, salmon, and almost all sorts of provisions; with a fair on Friday in Trinity-week, for black cattle and horses.

Some corn and eggs are exported from this place to London, but the principal trade of the inhabitants consists of the salmon, which is taken in the Tweed, and esteemed the best in the kingdom. A considerable quantity of this fish being pickled, are put up in vessels called Kitts, by persons who subsist entirely by that employment, and are called Salmon-coopers, and then shipped off for London. During the months of June and July, the best fresh salmon may be bought at Berwick for a penny a pound. Many of the smaller fish are
sent

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sent to London alive, in smacks built for that purpose, there being a well in the middle, bored full of holes, for the free passage of the sea-water, in which the fish are conveyed without injury. These vessels are esteemed very safe for passengers, on account of their lying nearer the wind, and bearing heavier seas than any other.

Sir John Grey founded a convent of White friars at Berwick in 1270, and there was a house of Preaching friars before the year 1291. An hospital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen in this town is mentioned in the reign of king Edward the First, and the master and brethren of God's-house are mentioned, as being settled in this town about the second year of Edward the Third. Here was likewise a house of the order of the Trinity, which being destroyed by Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham, another house of the same order was built by William and Laurence Acton; but the religious were afterwards removed to Newcastle. At South Berwick, near Berwick upon Tweed, David, king of Scotland, founded in the twelfth century a Benedictine nunnery. And at Tweed-mouth, which is considered as a suburb to Berwick, was an hospital, the mastership of which was in the bishop of Durham.

From Tweed-mouth, on the south side of that river, the road extends westward to a village named EAST ORD, and then turning to the southward, passes by NORHAM, or NORTHAM, a village seated on the Tweed near the mouth of the Till, six miles south-west of Berwick, where was a castle built by Egfrid, or Egred, bishop of Durham, on the top of a steep rock. It was walled round, and erected to preserve his diocese from the frequent incursions of the Scotch moss-troopers. In the outermost wall, which was the largest in circuit, were placed several turrets towards the

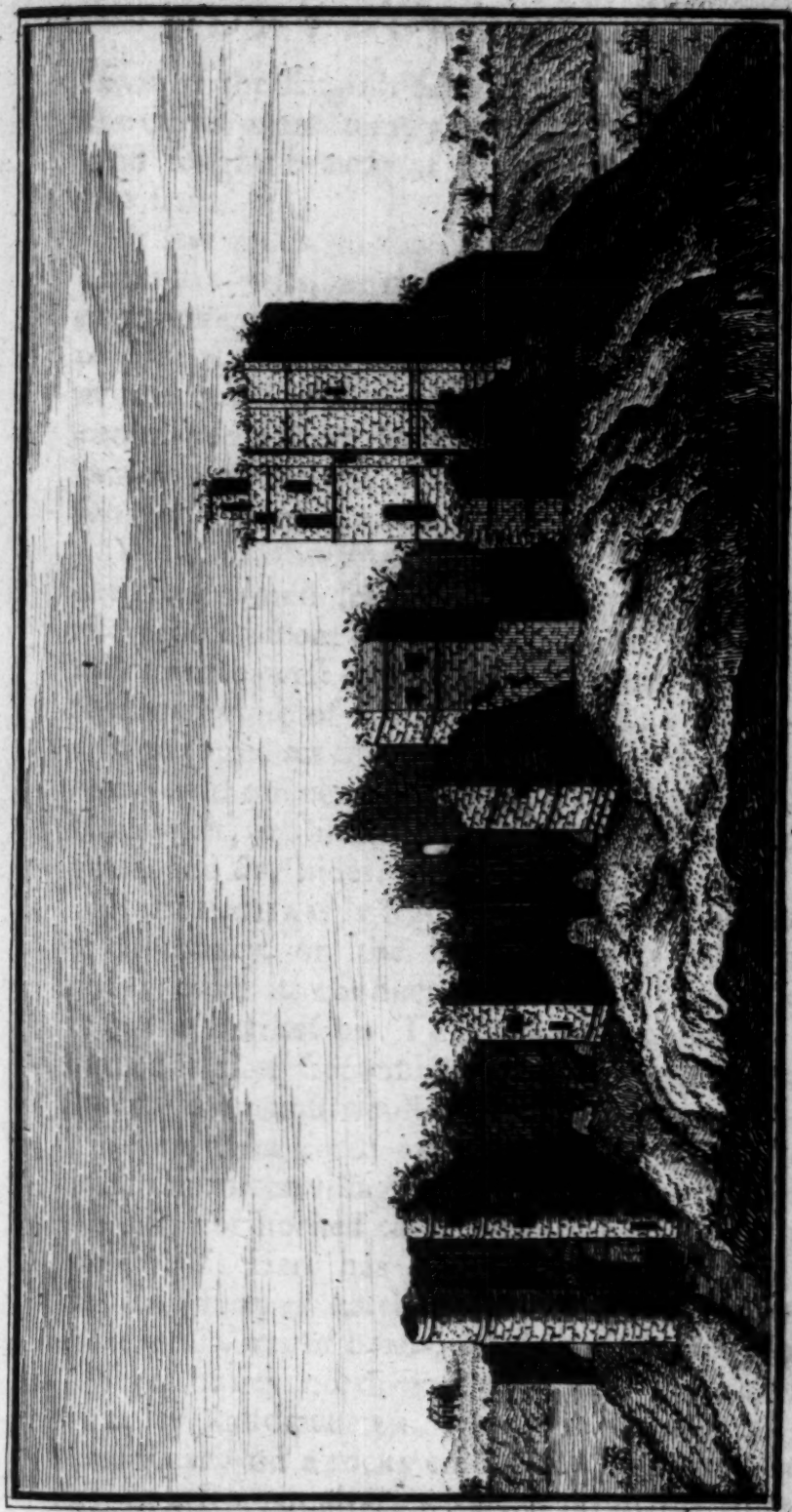
the

the river, and within this wall was a second of much greater strength, which had in the middle of it a high keep. This castle is now gone to ruin, it being of little use since the union; however, those parts of the wall that are still remaining, shew that it was a regular, strong, well built castle. At one end a large tower is pretty entire. Under the castle to the westward lies the town, which has nothing remarkable.

George Carleton, a learned bishop of the seventeenth century, was born at Norham, of whose important castle his father was then governor. He received his education under the famous Bernard Gilpin, commonly stiled the Northern Apostle, and afterwards at Edmund-hall in Oxford. In 1617 he was advanced to the bishopric of Landaff, and, about two years after, to that of Chichester. He died in May, 1628, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. He wrote, besides other pieces, the following works; *Heroic Characters*; *Jurisdiction Regal, Episcopal, and Papal*; *the Madnes of Astrologers*; and *the Life of Bernard Gilpin*.

About nine miles to the southward of Norham is LEARMOUTH, which is a handsome town, seated near the banks of the river Tweed, where formerly stood Warke-castle, which is now in ruins, and yet the country about it still retains the name of the barony of Warke.

Four miles to the east of Learmouth is FLODDON, a village seated on the river Till, near which is Floddon field, where James the Fourth, king of Scotland, invading England with a great army, while Henry the Eighth was at the siege of Tournay, was met by the brave earl of Surry, on the 9th of September, 1513, when after a bloody battle, which continued three hours, the wings of the Scotch army giving way, and the whole
force



The South East View of Norham Castle, in the County of Northumberland.



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force of the English falling upon the main body, the Scots were totally defeated, and their king, who fought bravely at the head of his nobility, was slain.

A few miles to the south of Floddon-field are CHIVIOT-hills, at the foot of which a desperate engagement is said to have been fought by the earl of Douglass and Percy, earl of Northumberland, at the head of their troops, when both of the commanders were slain, and a dreadful slaughter made on both sides, which gave occasion to the old song of Chivy-chace.

We shall now cross the country to the east into the road which leads from Woller to Rothbury, and proceed from thence to the south-west. Five miles north-west of this road, and eight miles to the westward of Rothbury, is ALLENTOWN, a village seated on the river Ridland, which has two fairs, held on the 10th of May, and the 14th of November, for horned cattle, horses, linen cloth, green and dry hides.

BELLINGHAM is seated sixteen miles south-west of Rothbury, on the bank of the North Tyne, not far from its confluence with the river Read. It has a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the Saturday after September 15, for horned cattle, sheep, linen and woollen cloth.

Seven miles north-east of this town is ELSDON, or ELLISDON, a village that has a fair on the 26th of August, for horned cattle, sheep, linen and woollen cloth. Here has been found an imperfect altar, in a heap of earth, intermixed with the bones of several sorts of beasts, broken urns, and ashes.

Seven miles north-west of Elsdon is ROCHESTER, or RIECHESTER, which is seated near the river Read, on a rocky eminence. Here has been dug up a Roman altar, with the following inscription: D. M. CIV. L. FLINGEN. MI. LEG. VLV. F.

Another

Another ancient altar was found at RIECHESTER, among the rubbish of an ancient castle, on which is this inscription :

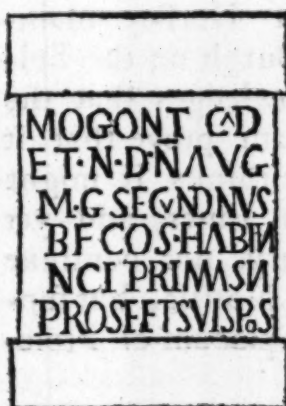
D. R. S.
DVPL. N. EXPLOR.
BREMEN. ARAM.
INSTITVERVNT.
N. EIVS. C. CAEP.
CHARITINO. TRIB.
V. S. L. M.

This inscription Mr. Horsley observes, should be read thus: Deae, Romae sacrum duplares numeri exploratorum Bremenii aram instituerunt numini ejus Caio Caepione Charitino tribuno votum solverunt libentes merito. Mr. Horsley observes, on his rendering the D. R. S. at the top Deae Romae sacrum, that there needs no proof to convince those who are acquainted with medals and other Roman antiquities, that the Romans made a goddess of Rome, and erected altars and temples to her. Camden justly conjectures, from the mention of the word Bremenium upon this altar, that that station, which has been so industriously, and so long sought for, was situated at Riechester, and that Antoninus began his first journey in Britain from this place, as from its utmost limit. Other very curious inscriptions have been found at Riechester, as well as a number of coins, several of which were of Marcus Aurelius.

About three miles north-east of Bellingham is RISINGHAM, a town on the river Read, which by length of time has almost washed it away. Camden tells us, that in Old English it signifies the giant's town; but others, with greater probability, think it only signifies a place built upon a rising ground; for most of the villages in these parts were

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were anciently so placed. It has many remains of antiquities; and Horsley is of opinion it was an advantageous station of the Romans, called *Habitancum*. The inhabitants report, that this place was long defended by the god Magon against a certain foldan, or pagan prince, which has the air of a fable; yet it must be acknowledged, that there were two altars taken out of the river inscribed to the god Magon; the tutelary deity of the Gadeni, whom Ptolemy makes the neighbours of the Ottadini. This altar was removed to Conington, where it still continues, and being very singular, we have here given a very exact cut of it.



Deo Mogonti Cadenorum et Numini Domini nostri Augusti Marcus Gaius Secundinus beneficiarius consulis Habitanci prima statione pro se et suis posuit. The whole inscription Mr. Horsley observes, is still very legible, tho' it is above one hundred and twenty years since this and another altar were taken out of the river Read. The altar was e-

rected to Mogon and the deity of the emperor, by one Secundinus, a beneficiary of the consul. The *beneficiarii* were soldiers who attended the chief officers of the army; they were exempt from duty, and seem to have been somewhat like those we now call cadets: besides the above two altars, there have been thirteen inscriptions and sculptures found at this station.

Six miles to the south-west of Bellingham is RUTCHESTER, the ancient *Vindobala*, where has been also found several inscriptions and sculptures.

From Bellingham, a road extends twelve miles south-west to HEXHAM, the principal town of a division

division of this county, anciently called Hexhamshire, which was long subject to the bishoprick of York, and claimed the privileges of a county palatine; but in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, it became part of the crown lands, and was by an act of parliament, in the time of queen Elizabeth, annexed to the county of Northumberland, with respect to civil affairs, but it is still a peculiar, belonging to the archbishop of York. Hexham is seated near the confluence of the North and South Tyne, at the distance of 276 miles from London. It has been formerly a magnificent place, and has been thought to be the Axelodunum of the Romans, where the first cohort of the Spaniards kept garrison; but Horsley maintains, that that station was at Burgh on the Solway sands. He however acknowledges that the stones and inscriptions at Hexham prove that it has been a Roman station, but thinks it might have been a town in the Roman times, and yet not be mentioned in the Itinerary, nor continue so late as till the writing of the Notitia, but supposes it might possibly be the Epiacum of Ptolemy.

Richard, the prior of a monastery in this town gives the following account of it. Not far from the southern bank of the river Tyne, says he, stands a town of small extent, and but thinly inhabited; yet it was once very large and magnificent. It was called Hextoldefham, from the little rivulet that runs by it, and sometimes suddenly overflows it. In the year 675, queen Etheldreda, wife to king Egfrid, assigned it for a bishop's see, to St. Wilfrid, who built a church and monastery here dedicated to St. Andrew, which surpassed in beauty all the religious houses in England. Several privileges were granted to it by the Saxon kings, and the bounds of its sanctuary extended a mile every way. The
above

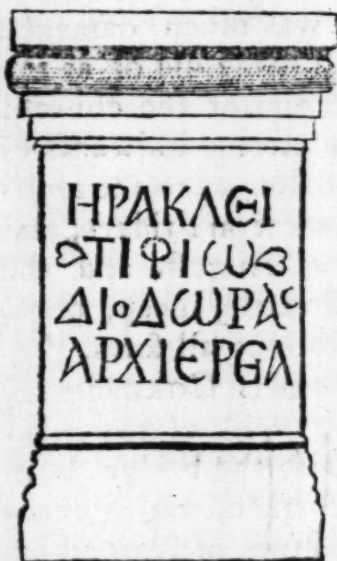
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above monastery contained a prior and regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, who, at the time of the dissolution, amounted to fourteen, and had a revenue of 122 l. 11 s. 1 d. per annum. Here was also a house for leprous persons, as old as the reign of king John, but its revenues at the suppression were valued at no more than four marks a year. Malmſbury deſcribing this town, ſays, it was ſurprizing to ſee what towering buildings were erected here, and how admirably contrived with winding ſtairs, by maſons brought from Rome, in ſo much that it ſeemed to vie with the Roman pomp.

Hexham is at preſent about three furlongs in length, in the road from Newcaſtle to Carlisle. It is a well built bailiwick town, governed by a bailiff choſen annually. It has an ancient church built by the Saxons, the weſt end of which has been demolished, but the reſt ſtands entire, and is a ſtately ſtructure, though it was much damaged in the civil wars, but it is ſtill made uſe of as the pariſh church. Near the eaſt end of the church, on a riſing ground, ſtand two ſtrong bulwarks of hewn ſtone, which ſome ſay belonged to the arch-biſhop of York. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, held on the 5th of Auguſt, and the 8th of November, for horned cattle, ſheep, hogs, pedlary, linen and woollen cloth of all ſorts.

Three miles eaſt of Hexham is CORBRIDGE, which is ſeated on the north bank of the river Tyne, and takes its name from the bridge built over it for the convenience of trade, and is generally allowed to be the Corſtopitum of Antoninus. Seven inſcriptions have been found here, one of which is in the fore-wall of a houſe, on the right hand as you enter the village from the eaſt: this has been copied as very curious, and has been

twice taken notice of in the Philosophical Transactions, by Dr. Hunter and Dr. Todd. There is another on the church wall, and a third that was found not many years ago; but there were more letters upon it when first discovered than there are at present. The market-cross stands on a high altar, upon which has been an inscription, but it is now defaced, and on the sides are human figures: one of these has a lyre in his hand, and is supposed to be Bacchus; the other, like Apollo, holds a bow unstrung. But the greatest curiosity is a Greek inscription that yet stands in the church-yard, and is thought to be the only one of the kind in Great Britain. The letters are about two inches high; and the sides of the altar are twelve inches and a half broad; on one side is a wreath, or garland, on the other an ox's head and a knife. Of this altar the following is an exact representation.



The words are Ἡρακλεῖ
Τιρρίῳ Διοδώρα ἀρχιερεία.
Herculi Tirrio Diodora
princeps sacerdos.

Corbridge at present contains nothing remarkable but the church and a little tower-house, fitted up and inhabited by the vicars of the place, but there are many ruins of ancient buildings, which prove that it was once a large and spacious town. It is pretended, that about eighty years ago, the skeleton of a man was found here, seven yards long, and that the length of the thigh bone was above six feet; but this and other skeletons found

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found elsewhere of a prodigious size, are now generally acknowledged to have belonged to some beast. Since that time great numbers of teeth, and other bones of an extraordinary size have been found, as also a kind of pavement, all which, with the above altar, inscribed to Hercules, render it highly probable, that these were the teeth and bones of oxen and other creatures, sacrificed at a temple dedicated to Hercules that stood in this place.

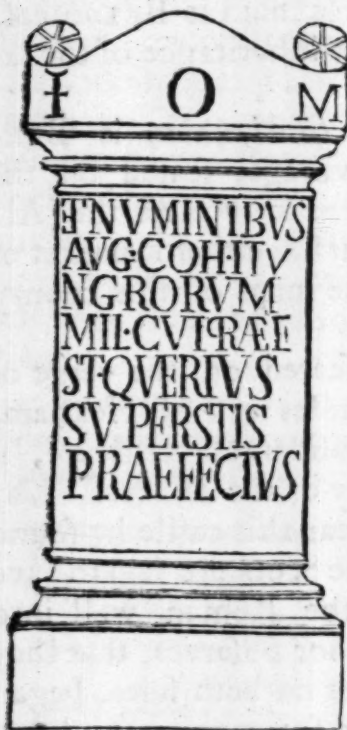
Ten miles north-east of Hexham is BELSO castle, which has been long the inheritance of the family of the Middletons.

Eleven miles to the west of Hexham is BELTINGHAM, a pretty large village, seated on the Tyne, near the place where it receives the Alton, but we do not find that it has either a market or fair, tho' it is inserted in the maps of this county as a market town.

THIRLEWALL castle is seated on the verge of the county, about sixteen miles west of Hexham, and was anciently no inconsiderable structure, it being the seat of the family of the Wades. Mr. Warburton observes, that near this castle he found three inscriptions. Here the Scots are said to have forced a passage through the Roman wall into England; and a Scottish author observes, that they having conquered the country on both sides, began to settle themselves in it, and summoning the boors with their mattocks, pick-axes, spades, shovels, and rakes, caused wide gaps to be made in the wall, through which they might readily pass and repass, hence the village of Thirlewall obtained its name, which signifies a hole, or gap in the wall.

HOUSE-STEEDS, is the ruins of a Roman town named Borcovicus, seated by the Roman wall, and is the place where the first cohort of the Tongri, a part of the Roman army, lay in garrison.

There is no place in Britain that has equalled this, with respect to the extent of the ruins of the town, and the number, variety, and curiosity of the sculptures which yet remain there. Mr. Horsley has given sixteen of these, of the most curious of which, we shall give a description. The following is an altar, found lying on a large ruinous heap, now called Chapel-hill, fully exposed to the injuries of the weather,



Jovi Optimo Maximo Et
Numinibus Augusti cohors
prima Tungrorum militum
cui prae est Quintus Verius
Superstis Praefectus.

The unusual shape of the I for Jovi is remarkable. In the same ruinous heap was found another altar, which was also in a pretty perfect state. At the bottom of a field south-east of this station were many more sculptures and altars, and the visible ruins of streets and buildings. At the edge of the fields where the Roman town stood, Mr. Horsley

found nine inscriptions and sculptures, most of them erected by the same cohort of the Tungrians, among which was the following erected to the god Mars, by Quintus Florius Maternus, prefect of the same cohort, in which the globe on the base of the altar is remarkable, and the letter A without a transverse.



Deo Marti Quintus Florius Maternus praefectus cohortis primae Tungrorum votum solvit libens merito.

At this place are likewise several curious sculptures, most of which are described by Mr. Gordon; but Mr. Horsley says, the accounts given of them in Camden's *Britannia* is not very exact. Among these is a Victory standing upon a globe winged, with the usual drapery, done in alto relievo. The figure of a Roman soldier at length, in the usual military dress, a poniard in

his right hand, and a bow in his left; his sword hung at his girdle, and his quiver of arrows on his right shoulder: another figure of a soldier in his accoutrements; his two belts are visible crossing each other, agreeable to the description of Ajax's armour in *Homer*.

But there no pass the crossing belts afford,
One brac'd his shield, and one sustain'd his sword.

POPE.

Another piece in relievo consisted of three female figures seated, which plainly appear naked up to the knees, and are, with great probability, supposed to be local goddesses, or the *Deae matres*, or *campestres*. There are also three female figures represented together, at two other places in this Roman station.

Mr. Gordon, when upon the spot with baron Clerk, dug up from the ruins of the Roman town here, a small statue of a soldier in a Roman military habit, holding a spear in his right hand, and resting with his left upon a shield, which the baron deposited in his collection. He had also two small altars found here, but they had no inscriptions. Besides these, there are several other pieces of sculptures, altars, pedestals and columns, scattered here and there, and one piece of a fine channelled column lies in the midst of the station.

On the west side of House-steeds has been discovered, under a heap of rubbish, a square room, strongly vaulted at the top, and paved with large square stones. Under this was a lower room, the roof of which was supported by rows of square pillars.

The next Roman station where any inscriptions are found is *LITTLE CHESTERS*, which is seated near *Busy-gap*, seven miles west by north of *Hexham*. *Busy-gap* was, in *Camden's* time, famed for robberies, and that gentleman observes, that though he had heard there were forts there, he durst not go to view them, for fear of the *Moss-troopers*, as the robbers on the highway in this county were then called. He adds, he was told it was a very large place, which made him guess that it was the station of the second cohort of the *Dalmatians*; on the other hand, *Warburton* would have it to be the *Hunnum* of *Antoninus*, which *Mr. Horsley* places at *Halton-Chesters*. There is here an altar erected to the Syrian goddess, which *Sir Isaac Newton* says was one of the names of *Venus*. In this place is also an altar, erected by some person whose name is not expressed, for the safety of *Desidienus Aelianus* the prefect, and for his own. The letters are but meanly cut, and of the later and ruder form. Besides

sides many other inscriptions, here was found a remarkable piece of sculpture in relievo, representing Mercury with his caduceus in his left hand, and purse in his right. Above his right arm, is somewhat like the cap of Liberty, but the head of the figure, and the upper part of the stone, is broken and confused. On the side of Mercury is an altar with this inscription upon it, DEO MERCURIO, and a Camillus lays the incense on the altar. This stone was found by Mr. Warburton, who presented it to the Royal Society, in whose museum it now is.

Near Little Chesters are some of the military stones, which are said to have been erected at the end of each mile, upon the military ways. One of these is thrown down, and lies under a hedge near the rivulet, a little to the east of this station. But the most curious of these stands at about a mile's distance from this place to the west.

Several inscriptions have also been found at GREAT CHESTERS, but most of them are very imperfect: but at Cockmount hill, at a small distance from thence, lies a curious piece of sculpture in relievo, first taken notice of by Mr. Gordon, but in his draught of it he has omitted two eagles, on whose wings the Victories stand that support the Vexillum. Each eagle rests upon the branch of a tree. At the bottom are two boars, and that on the right plainly appears to bite the stock of the tree on that side. Mr. Horsley makes no doubt, but that the boars and the trees were designed to represent this wild and woody country, as it then was, and that this sculpture plainly denotes the conquest of this country by the Romans, their victories over the inhabitants, and their making a settlement here, in opposition to all the attempts of their enemies. The heads of the eagles are broken off, but the rest of them is very distinct.

CART-VORRAN is a place which lies on the south side of the wall, and in Camden's opinion is of great antiquity; but he would not determine what its ancient name should be; but Horsley is of opinion, that it was Magna, where the second cohort Dalmatarum was quartered, according to the Notitia; but whether it was British, or purely Roman is uncertain. The fort is placed about twelve or thirteen chains to the south of both the walls, which are here very near to each other, and has a peet-moss before it, which may be the reason of the modern name, for carr signifies a fen. The ramparts round this fort are very conspicuous, and also the ditch; the buildings without the fort have been on the south and west sides, and on the descent towards the river Tippal.

CARRAW is a village standing by the wall on the north side, between Seavenshale and Walton, where there are evident remains of old fortifications. Horsley calls it Carrabrugh, and allows it to be the Proculina of the Romans mentioned in the Notitia. It was garrisoned by the first cohort Batavorum. Mr. Gorden says, that many stately altars and inscriptions have been dug out of this fort, with the name of the cohort inscribed upon them; but Horsley says he could never hear of more than one.

The following great men were born in this county.

John of Beverley, archbishop of York, in the eighth century, was born of a noble family at Harpham, a small town in Northumberland. He was first a monk, then abbot of the monastery of St. Hilda, afterwards bishop of Hagustald, and, last of all, archbishop of York. He was tutor to the famous Bede; and, in 704, he founded a college at Beverley, for secular priests. He died

on

on the 7th of May, 721. He wrote an *Essay towards the Exposition of St. Luke: Homilies on the Gospels; Letters to the Abbess Hilda, &c.*

John Bate, prior of the monastery of the Carmelites at York, in the fifteenth century, was born in Northumberland, and educated at York, whence he removed to Oxford, where he finished his studies. He was one of the most learned divines and philosophers of his age. He died the 26th of January, 1429, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Sixth. He wrote, among other things, *Questions concerning the Soul: a Compendium of Logic; and A Preface to the Bible.*

John Rushworth, the famous author of the *Historical Collections*, was descended of a good family in Yorkshire, and born in the county of Northumberland, about the year 1607. Having studied some time at the university of Oxford, he removed to Lincoln's-Inn, London, where he became a barrister; but his genius leading him strongly to affairs of state, he began very early, by taking down speeches, &c. in parliament, to lay in materials for that voluminous work, which he afterwards composed. Upon the meeting of the long parliament in 1640, he was chosen clerk-assistant to Mr. Henry Elsynge, clerk to the House of Commons; and was employed by that House in carrying their addresses to king Charles the First, while that prince resided at York. In 1643 he took the covenant, and was appointed secretary to Sir Thomas Fairfax, general of the parliamentary forces. In 1658 he was elected burges for the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and again for the same place in 1660. In 1667 he was constituted secretary to Sir Orlando Bridgman, lord-keeper of the great seal; and this place he enjoyed as long as Sir Orlando held the seal. He was again chosen burges for Berwick-upon-

Tweed in the parliament which met in 1678; as also in that parliament which assembled in 1679, and in the ensuing one at Oxford. After the dissolution of this last parliament, he lived obscurely in Westminster, till at length falling into bad circumstances, he was committed prisoner for debt to the King's Bench in Southwark, where he spent the last six years of his life, and died there May the 12th, 1690, aged eighty-three. The two first parts of his Historical Collections were published by himself; the rest after his death; the whole comprized in seven volumes, folio.

NOTTING



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THIS county takes its name from Nottingham its capital. It is bounded on the north by Yorkshire, and the isle of Axholm in Lincolnshire; on the east also by Lincolnshire; on the south by Leicestershire, and on the west by Derbyshire, and a small part of Yorkshire. It extends in length from north to south about forty-five miles, and from east to west about twenty-four, and is one hundred and ten miles in circumference.

The British inhabitants of this county, at the invasion of the Romans, were the Coritani. A military way, termed the Fosse-way, enters this county from Willoughby-on-the-Would, near the borders of Leicestershire, and passing in a north-east direction by Bingham and Newark, leaves Nottinghamshire at a village called Skarle, a few miles north-east of Newark, passing from thence into Lincolnshire.

We do not find any thing memorable has been said of the county in general, in the Saxon times, besides what is mentioned in Domesday-book; namely, that in Snottinghamshire, if any person should plow, or make a ditch in the king's high-way, in the road to York, or within two perches of it, he should pay eight pounds, that is, eight pounds weight of silver, two thirds of which should go to the king. This county was divided by William the Conqueror, among his captains and fol-

lowers, the Saxon lords being forced to resign their possessions.

Nottinghamshire is not one of the largest counties, but upon other accounts, yields to few in England.

It is well watered by rivers, the principal of which are the Trent, the Idle, and the Erwash. The Trent rises in the highlands of Staffordshire, and dividing Derbyshire from Leicestershire, enters this county at Thrumpton, near its southern limits, and running north-east passes by Nottingham to Newark, then running north passes by Gainborough, and having received the Idle, runs into Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, where it discharges itself into the Humber. The Trent abounds with excellent fish, particularly salmon, and on the sides of this river, as well as on the banks of those that fall into it, are rich meadows and pasture lands.

The Idle, or Iddle, rises near Mansfield, and running north-east, passes by East Retford and Bawtry, and running north-east, falls into the Dun, on the west side of the isle of Axholm in Lincolnshire.

The Erwash rises in Shirwood-forest, and after dividing a part of Nottinghamshire from Derbyshire, falls into the Trent.

The mineral waters of this county are not very numerous. There is a fine spring of chalybeate water in the town of Nottingham, which is excellent for all obstructions, but is much neglected.

A mineral water at Kinolton, seven miles south-east of Nottingham, is clear, pleasant, cooling, and a little saltish; it grows white, and curdles with oil of tartar; but undergoes no alteration with acid spirits, and will turn of a beautiful light red, with tincture of logwood. A gallon will

will yield two hundred and eighty grains of a beautiful white sediment, the fourth part of which is a fine alkaline earth; and in the remainder is a remarkable pure, clear nitre. This is a purging water, that has not above half the portion of contents as Epsom water, nor will it work unless drank plentifully.

At Orston, twelve miles east of Nottingham, is a mineral water, which, as it rises out of the spring, has a sweetish chalybeate, and a little roughish taste; but when it has stood for some time it becomes rough and harsh. A gallon yields a hundred and twenty-eight grains of sediment, of which the proportion of the earth to the salt is as twenty-seven to nine. The water is a rich chalybeate, with a considerable quantity of sulphur, if drank as it springs up, but the predominating salt is a calcarious nitre, mixed with a small quantity of sea-salt. It will purge those of a gross habit of body, and will turn the throat, tongue, and stools of the drinkers, perfectly black. It is good in the hypocondriac melancholy, scurvy, want of appetite, indigestion, pain of the stomach, costiveness, and stoppage of urine. It is also good in the beginning of obstructions of the bowels, and likewise in ulcers of the lungs, and spitting of blood.

The air of this county is clear and salubrious, and the soil is of two different kinds, clay and sand. The east side, which is very fruitful in corn and pasture, is called the Clay, and this division is divided into the North and South Clay. The west part of the county, which is generally sand, is chiefly taken up with Shirwood-forest, in which are several parks, town and seats. This forest we find first mentioned in the reign of Henry the Second, though it is certain it was a forest before. Some time after it came to the crown, it was managed

managed by the sheriffs for the county, for the time being. The officers of Shirwood had three distinct districts, one between the Leen and Dover-beck, the High-forest, and Rum-wood, and it is said that this perambulation remains to this day, without any considerable alteration. The officers of Shirwood-forest, are a warden, his lieutenant and steward, a bow-bearer, a ranger, four verdurers, twelve regards, four agisters, and twelve keepers or foresters, all under the chief forester. Besides these, there are several woodwards for every township within the forest, and one for every principal wood.

On the western side of the county, bordering upon Derbyshire, there is found in several places an excellent kind of pit-coal, with some mines of lead. In this county are also found marles of several kinds, and a stone not unlike alabaster, but softer, which, when burnt, makes a plaster harder than that of Paris; and this plaster the inhabitants of Nottinghamshire generally use for flooring, especially of the upper apartments of their houses. There are in this county some quarries of stone, particularly one at Gotham, which yields a kind of rugged stone, with very beautiful veins. There is a quarry of excellent free-stone at Mansfield; and also a stone at Gedling, a village about three miles from Nottingham, which Dr. Deering says, is not unlike the Bath stone; for being soft it works fine and easy, and stands well in the air, where it hardens, and seems rather nourished than decayed by it. The other productions of this county are hops, cattle, corn, abundance of fowl, and fresh-water fish. The principal manufactures are wove stockings and gloves, earthen and glass ware. The inhabitants also make great quantities of malt, and fine strong ale,

Among

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Among the principal vegetable productions growing wild in this county, are,

The purple, creeping mountain-pink, *Caryophyllus minor repens nostras*. An *Betonica cornuaria*, *sive caryophyllata repens rubra*, J. B. By the road side, on the sandy hill you ascend going from Lenton to Nottingham, plentifully; and in other sandy grounds in this county.

White wild catchfly, *Lychnis sylvestris alba nona Clusii*, Ger. *emac. montana viscosa alba latifolia*, C. B. On an old wall of Nottingham-castle, and on the grounds thereabout.

Common fennel, *Foeniculum vulgare*, Ph. Edinb. On the rocks of Nottingham-castle.

Alexanders, *Hipposelinum*, *sive smyrnium*, Ph. Edinb. Also on the rocks of Nottingham-castle.

Hoary mullein with small flowers, *Verbascum pulverulentum flore luteo parvo*, J. B. About Wolaton-hall.

Strawberries. In Thorney-wood.

Bilberries, or wurtle-berries, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, Lin. In Shirwood-forest.

Violets, *Viola martia purpurea flore simplice odore*, in Colwic woods, in abundance.

Meadow saffron, *Colchium commune*. On both sides the foot path going from Nottingham to Wilford, in abundance.

Saffron-coloured filken stone-moss, *Byssus aureus Derbiensis humifusus*. In the stone wall of Colwick church.

Nottinghamshire is divided into eight hundreds, or rather six wapentakes, and two liberties. It lies in the province and diocese of York, and has one hundred and sixty-eight parishes, and nine market towns, which are Nottingham, Newark, Mansfield, Blith, Bingham, Workop, Tuxford, Southwell, and East Redford. It sends eight members

members to parliament, that is, two knights of the shire for the county, and two representatives for each of the boroughs of Nottingham, Newark, and East-Redford.

We shall enter this county by the London road from Leicester to York.

Soon after entering this county by the road from London to Nottingham, you come to BUNNEY, or BONEY, a village in which is the seat of Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart. this is a strong heavy building; but has a good park walled round, and well stocked with deer. The late Sir Thomas was well skilled in wrestling, and took pleasure in shewing the art to others: he even published a book upon the subject, which he dedicated to king George the First. It is remarkable, that he had his coffin made and deposited in the church, where his monument was also erected, and upon it placed his statue in the attitude of a wrestler, ready to encounter his antagonist, some years before his death, and that he applied to several persons for a monumental inscription, alluding to his being a great wrestler; and obtaining several, chose the following, which we shall insert, on account of its singularity.

Quem modo stravisti longo certamine Tempus,
Hic recubat britonum clarus in orbe pugit,
Nunc primum stratus, praeter te vicerat omnes,
Da te etiam victor quando resurget erit.

Which has been thus englished.

At length he falls, the long—long contests o'er,
And Time has thrown, whom none e'er threw before,
Yet boast not, Time, thy victory, for he
At last shall rise again, and conquer thee.

About six miles to the north by east of Bunny is NOTTINGHAM, the principal town in the coun-

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ty to which it gives its name. It was called by the Saxons Snottingaham, from the caves they found in the rocks, which are supposed to have been inhabited by the Britons, before the time of their arrival, and is pleasantly seated on a rocky hill facing the south, on the north side of the Leen, and near a mile north of the Trent, which is navigable here for large barges; twenty-five miles north of Leicester, sixteen east of Derby, thirty-two south-west of Lincoln, and twenty-five north by west of London.

Nottingham is undoubtedly one of the most ancient towns in Great-Britain. John Rouse, a monk of Warwick, who wrote in the reign of king Henry the Seventh, places its foundation nine hundred and eighty years before the birth of Christ; and says, that king Ebranc built this town upon the Trent, on an eminence called Dolorous-hill, from the great slaughter of the Britons made there by king Humber, in the reign of Abbanact. Indeed, it is a general observation, that the writers of history, fond of the marvellous, have endeavoured to extend the origin of nations and cities, to the most distant ages, and of involving their origin in fables. However Dr. Stukeley observes, that Nottingham seems to be as ancient as the time of the Britons; for as soon, says he, as they had proper tools, they fell to work upon the rocks, which every where offered themselves so commodiously for affording them places of retirement and shelter; and Dr. Deering observes, that these works were probably performed long before the arrival of the Romans. Indeed, the whole town is, in a manner, undermined with caverns of an amazing depth and extent; so that it is even questioned, whether all the buildings on the surface of the rock would fill up the vacancies underneath. Hence the cellars cut in
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the rocks, are frequently as deep as the highest houses; and in digging for foundations of new houses, there have been sometimes discovered spacious caverns, before unknown; some of these are said to have been arched, in a regular manner, to have been supported by columns, and to have had a communication with each other, by passages leading to very distant parts.

It is universally allowed, that the Cornish Britons were skilled in mining, before the arrival of the Romans; but whether these subterraneous works are of so ancient a date, it is impossible to determine. Dr. Deering supposes, from there being something of the Gothic order observable in these structures, that they were formed during the heptarchy, when the Danes, who were Pagans, made frequent inroads into this part of the kingdom, and intended as places of refuge, to which they might betake themselves in time of danger, and exercise their religious functions, without being exposed to the fury of those persecuting idolaters. If what that gentleman observes, with respect to the Gothic appearance of these caverns be true, his conjecture is highly probable; but if this particular is only imaginary, it is more natural to suppose, that they were formed before the arrival of the Romans, and that afterwards they might be rendered places of security for their wives and children, druids, and old men, while the warriors, were engaged in fighting for their country at a distance from home; and that afterwards the Britons enlarged these subterraneous dwellings, and rendered them places of refuge against the barbarities exercised by the Saxons, when they extended their dominions over South Britain, and obliged numbers of the brave inhabitants to shelter themselves among the barren mountains of Wales.

It

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It does not appear that Nottingham was a Roman station, it being situated at a distance from any of their roads, and no Roman antiquities are known to have been found there: but there is no doubt of its being inhabited by the Saxons soon after their arrival, and that they very early erected fortifications there. For the Danes, when they ravaged this island, came to Snottingaham, as it was then called, in the year 852, where they were besieged by Bethred, king of the Mercians, but without success, they having taken possession of a strong fortress placed on the rock, on which the castle was afterwards built; but in 864, Ethelred, king of the West-Saxons, and his brother Alfred, joining the above prince, marched with all their forces, invested this fortress, and obliged the Danes to enter into a capitulation, in which they promised to retire, and leave the kingdom; yet two years after they returned, and again took possession of Nottingham, where they took up their winter quarters; but they were soon obliged to leave it, and to retire into the north.

King Edward the Elder, the son of Alfred, encompassed the town with a wall, which is now entirely demolished: though one of the gates was standing in the memory of man, and the names of the rest are preserved in those of the streets which led to them. Camden and Hollinshead affirm, that the castle was built by William the Conqueror, which is certainly true, though Dr. Thoroton, who wrote the history of the county, maintains, that it was built by William de Peverel, his natural son, whom that prince not only made earl of Nottingham, but gave him the custody of the castle, and of Shirwood-forest. In the reign of Henry the Second, his son William losing the castle, was so exasperated, that he demolished the town, which continued in a ruinous condition

condition till Henry the Second, being peaceably settled on the throne, assisted the inhabitants in rebuilding it, and granted them a new charter.

In the year 1194, king Richard the First called a great council, or parliament here; and king John here caused twenty-eight Welch gentlemen, who had been delivered to him as hostages, for the peaceable behaviour of their countrymen, to be hanged, on account of the Welch having again taken up arms against him.

In the reign of Edward the Third, a great council met at this town, when the king being made sensible of the mischiefs than ensued from the vile actions of Roger Mortimer, earl of March, who was too familiar with the queen mother, and under the shelter of her authority, was inflamed with such pride and arrogance, as to be guilty of the most arbitrary proceedings, thought it necessary to bring him to condign punishment. Upon this the king privately ordered Sir William Montague, constable of the castle, to take to his assistance several trusty persons, to put the advice of the council into execution. These got into the castle by a secret winding ascent, unknown to the queen and Mortimer, cut from the bottom of the rock to the top, and entered the room next to the queen's lodgings, where they found the earl with Henry, bishop of Lincoln, and some others, who for some time stood on their defence; but two of their company being slain, the rest were taken prisoners. The earl of March was taken down through the above passage, and sent to London, where, at the meeting of the parliament, articles of impeachment were preferred against him, and he was sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered, which was executed at the common gallows, called the Elms, near Smithfield. This private passage, which is without the town and
castle

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castle walls, was probably made long before, and intended to relieve the castle with men and provisions, in case the town should be in the possession of an enemy ; but from the above circumstance it obtained the name of Mortimer's hole, by which it is still called.

Edward the Fourth so much enlarged, and adorned the castle, that it seemed in a manner new built, and his brother Richard the Third, made farther improvements, and rendered it one of the compleatest fortresses in the kingdom. David, king of Scotland, was kept prisoner here, before he was sent to London, and during his confinement, is said to have carved the history of Christ's passion, and other curious subjects in relief on the walls of his prison ; but as he was ill of his wounds while he continued there, these works were probably performed, if they were not done before, by one of his attendants.

The situation of the castle on a steep rock, and the strength of its fortifications, rendered it impregnable by storm ; tho' in the barons wars it was taken by surprize. In the civil wars king Charles the First set up his standard here, but it became afterwards a garrison for the parliament. 'From the Rutland family (to which it was given before the civil wars) it came by the mother's side to the duke of Buckingham, and he sold it to William Cavendish, marquis and afterwards duke of Newcastle, who laid the foundation of the present noble structure, which was finished in the year 1679.

In ancient times Nottingham contained several religious houses for monks of different orders ; thus, a house of Carmelite or White friars stood between St. James's-lane, and Friar-lane, said to be founded by Reginald, lord Grey of Wilton, and Sir John Shirley, Knt. about the year 1276. In the street called Broad-Marsh,

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was a house of Grey friars, said to have been founded by king Henry the Third, in the year 1250. In a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, in the rock under the castle, was a cell of two monks, about the reign of king Henry the Third; and about the same time there seems to have been also a college of secular priests in the castle. There was likewise a house called St. John Baptist's, at the foot of the castle-rock, belonging to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, for whom the archbishop of York made several rules or orders; but this was suppressed long before the other houses of that order in England underwent the same fate. Here was likewise an hospital as old as the reign of king Henry the Third, dedicated to St. Leonard. Near the Leen bridge was an hospital, founded by John Plumptree, in the reign of Richard the Second, for two chaplains, thirteen poor widows, and several poor men. There was also in the church of St. Mary three chantries, viz. the chantry of St. Mary, St. James's, and Amyas, and a guild or fraternity of six priests, called the guild of the Trinity. There was in St. Peter's church a guild of St. George, and a chantry of St. Mary; and also in the church of St. Nicholas another.

This town was incorporated long before king Henry the Second gave it a charter; for in Edward the Confessor's time it had a hundred and seventy-three burgessees. Many of our kings have in this town kept their court, and assembled here several parliaments. It was anciently governed by two bailiffs, coroners, and a common-council. King Edward the First impowered them to choose a mayor annually. Henry the Sixth, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, made it a county of itself, changed the bailiffs into sheriffs, and appointed it to be governed by a mayor and burgessees. It is

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at present governed by a mayor, six aldermen, a recorder, two sheriffs, two coroners, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, and twenty-four common-councilmen, of whom there must be six who have not served the offices, either of sheriff or chamberlain. The mayor and aldermen are dressed in scarlet gowns, and the mayor and sheriffs have each two-serjeants at mace. Here are likewise a middleton jury; which is probably a contraction of middletown jury; they being summoned every half year from the people of the town, and are to observe and present all encroachments and nuisances both in the town itself, and in the county of the town, which is twelve miles in circumference. Besides, there are two officers, called Pindars, one the Pindar of the fields, the other of the meadows: the Pindar of the fields is also woodward of the town, which lies in the jurisdiction of the forest of Shirwood, and is likewise to attend the forest-courts. Here is an uncertain number of burgesses, called the Clothing, and about twelve hundred other burgesses. The town is divided into seven wards, answering the number of aldermen, each of these having one of them committed to his care, though he is not confined to live in it; and as a justice of peace, his power extends throughout all the liberties of the town. The corporation is possessed of several fine estates, some of which are applied to general, and other to particular uses. Besides which, there are many pieces of land sufficient to keep one or two horses, or cows, that are appropriated to the use of the members of the corporation, and such of the burgesses as are advanced in years, particularly an inclosure, called the Over-Trent-Close, which is divided among the seven aldermen, and of which each becomes entitled to his share at the time of his election, and enjoys it during his life; and their widows

dows have the option of the first burges's part that falls. There are, indeed, upwards of two hundred and ninety burges's parts belonging to the freemen of the town, for which they pay no rent, and which are esteemed worth from 3l. to 20 s. a year value, which they enjoy, not only in their turn of seniority, during the remainder of their lives, but their widows possess them after their death, as long as they continue single, and live in the town: and though a burges should die before one of these parts or lots falls to his share, yet if his wife survives him, and continues a widow, she is intitled to his turn.

This town, which is esteemed one of the pleasantest in England, is larger than most cities, and seated on the sides and top of a rock. The houses are extremely well built, and most of those in the market-place, and the principal streets near it, have their fronts supported by lofty stone columns, which make a handsome appearance, and at the same time afford shelter in bad weather. The streets are well-paved, and from their situation on a rock, are always clean, except on the out-skirts of the town. Here are, as we have already intimated, three churches; St. Mary's, and St. Peter's, are very handsome Gothic structures, particularly St. Mary's, which resembles a cathedral. Part of the south side has been lately rebuilt in a manner conformable to the rest of the structure: the west end has been also rebuilt: but this is done in the Doric order. Here is the principal gate, fronting which, before the entrance of the choir, the organ is supported by four lofty stone columns of the Ionic order, which, though not strictly proper, in a Gothic structure, have a pleasing effect. This church has a handsome square tower, in which is a ring of ten bells. St. Peter's church, though not so large, is also a handsome

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some structure, and has a lofty spire, in which are eight bells, and the altar-piece is adorned with a painting of the last supper. St. Nicholas's is a small neat structure, built with brick and stone. There are here also eight meeting-houses, most of which are very large and well filled. Here is a handsome town-hall, in which the sessions and courts for the corporation are kept, and the assizes are likewise held, besides a county-hall, just built upon a very elegant plan. The town abounds with gentlemen's houses: before the front of one of these, in a street called the High pavement, is an opening made on the other side the way, and here the stranger is surprized with seeing through the rails a garden, beyond which an unbounded prospect suddenly breaks upon his view, from an eminence equal to the height of several houses. The meadows, at a considerable depth below, spreading to a very great extent, with the Trent winding along, and the view carried as far as the eye can reach.

The principal market-place is not only one of the largest, but one of the finest and best supplied in England. On one side of it is a range of very lofty buildings, under which is a broad and handsome piazza, called the Exchange. In the center of the building is a pediment, in which is a very large clock, and on the apex stands the statue of Justice. At the other end of the market-place is a very handsome cross, an open building with a dome, supported by six lofty Doric columns, with an ascent on each side by stone steps, which encompasses it. This market is kept every Saturday, and is supplied with an amazing quantity of corn, provisions, homespun-linen, earthen ware, and a variety of other articles. There are properly two other market-places, one called the Hen-cross, where there is a very lofty column, placed upon steps, and this market, which is also

kept on Saturdays, is only for eggs, young pigs, poultry, and all sorts of tame and wild fowl; in a different part of the town is another market-place, for all kinds of provisions, on Wednesdays and Fridays.

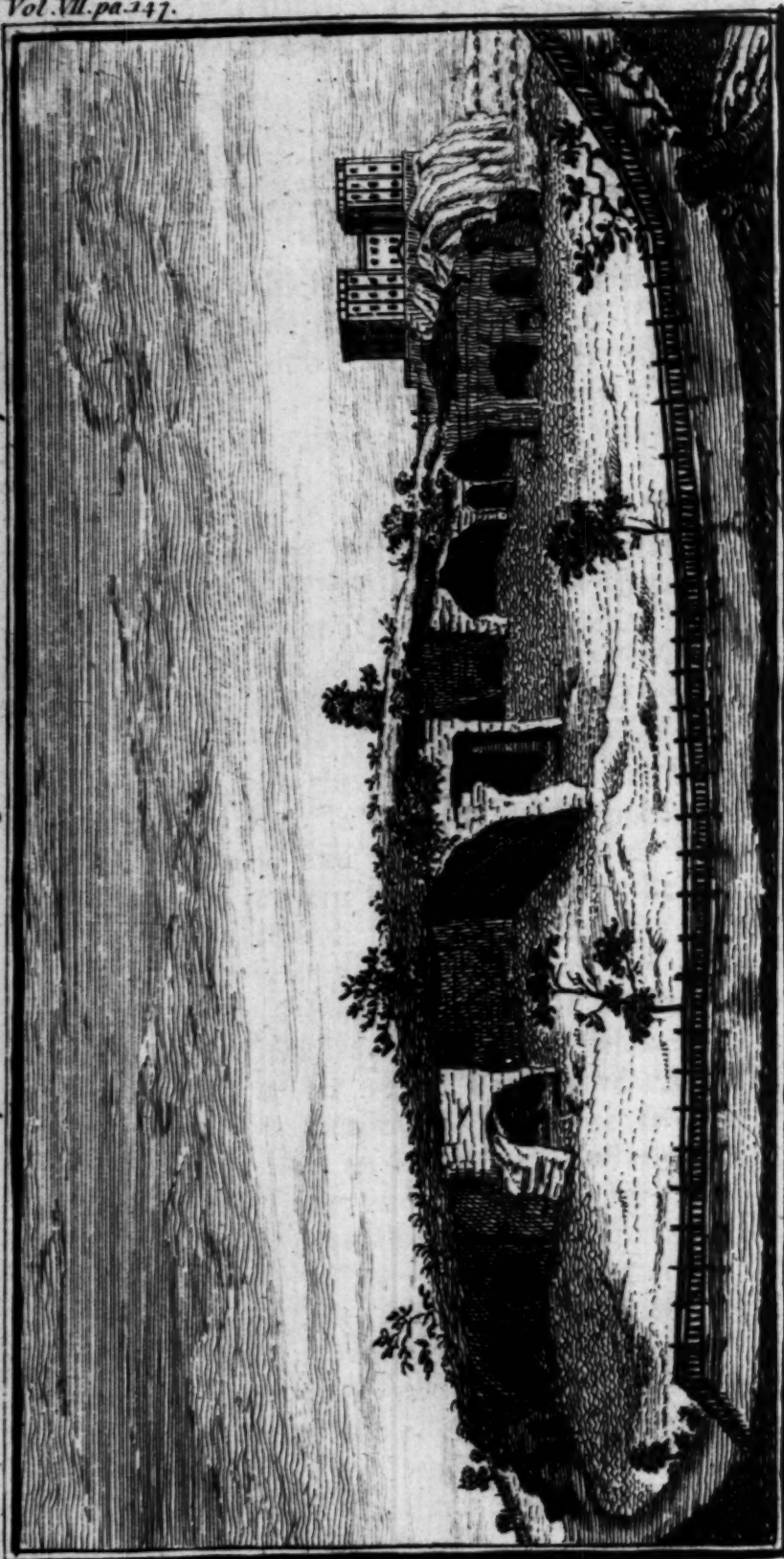
The castle, which is the greatest ornament of the town, is seated at the west end of it, and is inaccessible any other way than from the town. From the outer lodge there is a gradual ascent for a considerable distance, and then several noble flights of steps leading up to it, with a coach-way gradually winding to the top of the rock. The building is of stone, and extremely magnificent. The principal front is of rustic, adorned with columns and pilasters of the Corinthian order. In the center is an equestrian statue of the marquis of Newcastle, placed in a niche: under which, two flights of steps, adorned with handsome balustrades, lead up to the principal entrance. Round this noble structure is a considerable space paved with flag stones, and secured by a wall capped with stone, to prevent any danger from the precipice, which surrounds a considerable part of the building. On every side is an unbounded view of the country: to the east you see the whole town over the tops of the houses, with the fields, woods, and enclosures as far as the eye can reach. On another side the meadows appear for twelve or fourteen miles, like an extensive bowling-green, with the rivers Trent and Leen running through it. You have a view of Belvoir castle in Lincolnshire, and of the villages, seats and gardens of several of the nobility. The west end affords a fine view of the park and the distant country.

The park consists of very uneven ground, but has a level walk on the edge which encompasses great part of it. From this walk you have on one side a view of the country, and on the other,
of



A Street or Row of Cells in Nottingham Park, with a View of the Castle.

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of a steep descent with many little risings, which diversify the valley at the bottom, and have a very agreeable effect ; but the trees were cut down during the civil wars, and the deer, which belonged to the late duke of Newcastle, have been removed. On the south-west side of this park are a range of caves, cut in a perpendicular rock, in which is hewn out a church, houses, and a variety of apartments leading from one to another. The church resembles those in the rocks at Bethlehem, and other places in the Holy Land. The altar, as well as the rest, is natural rock ; the whole is plainly the work of art, and the pillars have some distant resemblance of the Gothic architecture ; there have been paintings on some of the walls ; and there is an opening above, which seems to have answered the purpose of a steeple, in which a bell probably hung. Great part of these subterranean structures, which are certainly of very great antiquity, have fallen down, and the river Leen runs through several of the caverns. It is probable that these were originally hewn out of the rock by the ancient Britons, before the landing of the Romans, and that afterwards they became the dwellings of some anchorets, who formed a great part of them into a chapel, which they endeavoured to make it resemble, by cutting the top into something like Gothic arches, and giving a Gothic air to the pillars that support the rock above. Of these caves we have given a view.

But to return to the town : in the south part of it there are a few little houses, if they may be called by that name, cut in the perpendicular rock, with doors and glass windows ; and in the skirts of the town next the forest, there are some instances of gardens, with the chimney rising amidst beds of plants and flowers ; and upon encompassing the garden, to find the house to which the

chimney belongs, the rock is seen cut perpendicular to a considerable depth; with a front perhaps plastered over, and good glass windows, with a little area before it, and steps cut in the rock leading down to the entrance.

Nottingham had a bridge over the Trent above a hundred years before the conquest, built by order of king Edgar; this is a stately structure built with stone, consisting of nineteen arches; and as that river sometimes overflows the meadows, there is a causeway, consisting of planks secured with a rail, erected for foot passengers by the side of the road, above half a mile in length, almost from the Trent bridge to another over the Leen. The town is supplied with plenty of water by a cistern of a prodigious size and depth cut out of the solid rock, on a hill somewhat higher than the town, to which the water is raised by an engine placed on the bank of the Leen, and from the above cistern runs to every house in the town.

There is here a play-house, and two handsome assembly rooms. Nottingham is one of the twelve towns where the king's plate of a hundred guineas is run for, besides many other plates. These races are kept in July, and the course, which is in Shirwood-forest, and was formerly four miles round, is at present only two; on which account, it is twice run over at every heat. It is one of the best in England, and is never out of order for running, be the weather what it will.

There are here also a free grammar-school, founded in the year 1513, for a master and usher; two charity-schools, one for fifty children, forty of whom are cloathed in blue; and the other for thirty. An hospital erected by John de Plump-tree, in the reign of Richard the Second, and endowed for thirteen poor women, and two chaplains, in which are at present seven widows, who have

have an allowance of five shillings a month each, and a ton of coals every year; Handley's alms-house for twelve poor people; Wartnaby's alms-house for the maintenance of six people, three men and three women, who have each a gown every two years, and annually a cart-load of coals; Bilby's alms-house for eight poor persons, who are allowed a two-penny loaf a week, and a ton of coals yearly; Labourer's alms-house for six decayed frame-work-knitters, who receive every Friday one shilling and ten-pence; Collin's hospital, commonly called the New-hospital, consists of habitations for twenty-four poor men and women, each of whom has two shillings a week, and annually a ton and a half of coals. These are very neat buildings, placed in a delightful situation. Besides these, there are Willoughby's, Woolley's, and Patten's hospitals, or alms-houses, with many other charitable foundations.

Nottingham is well supplied with river-fish from the Trent, and with sea-fish by land-carriage. Its principal trade consists in fine wove stockings, the hosiers of Nottingham employing several thousand stocking frames in the town, and the neighbouring villages. There is here also a great manufactory of earthen ware, which is sent to great part of England and Scotland, as well as London; and more malt is said to be made here than in any other town in England, which is sent into several of the neighbouring counties. It has four fairs, held on the 13th of January, the 7th of March, and the Thursday before Easter, for horses, and horned cattle; and on the 2d, 3d, and 4th, &c. of October, which is called Goose-fair, and is not only for horses, and horned cattle, but for prodigious quantities of cheese, which are bought up by the London factors, and many other articles.

The avenues about Nottingham are extremely delightful; the prospects from the castle, and the park at the west of the town, are exceeding fine; on the north there are pleasant fields, and the natural uncultivated beauties of Shirwood-forest, a fine sporting country. On the north-east end is a pleasing mixture of hills and vallies, woods and pastures, in which the prospects on all sides are every minute changing. On the south-east is a pleasant walk to a neat coffee-house near Snenton, which, from its uncommon situation, it would be unpardonable to omit. On approaching it from Nottingham, you pass by a long ledge of perpendicular rocks, at the foot of which are placed a range of cottages, with little gardens before them. The coffee-house being built upon an eminence, has a broad flight of steps leading up to it, and here the rock, instead of being naked, or only overgrown with bushes, is cut into several delightful terraces, and the intermediate spaces covered with fragrant shrubs, and a profusion of flowers. These terraces rising above the neighbouring houses, and even the roof of the coffee-house, afford the most delightful prospects of the meadow beneath, with the Trent winding its stream, and flowing under the arches of the bridge, and on turning your eye to the left, you see Colwick woods, like a hanging garden sloping down the side of a lofty eminence.

At the distance of about a mile and a half west of Nottingham is LENTON, a village where William Peverell, earl of Nottingham, the natural son of William the Conqueror, and Adelina his wife, built a priory in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the First, which was dedicated to the Trinity, and rendered subordinate to the abbey of Cluney in Normandy. He endowed it with the village of Lenton, and several other estates.

Henry

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Henry the First confirmed all these gifts, and granted it a fair that was to last eight days, which is still kept at Martinmass, tho' like most of the other country fairs, it is dwindled almost to nothing; yet it was originally ordered, that no man should buy or sell at Nottingham during this fair, and that all persons coming and going should be free from all actions at law. This priory was made denizen, in the sixteenth year of Richard the Second, and continued till the general dissolution, when its annual revenues were valued by Dugdale, at 329 l. 15 s. 10 d. Here was also an hospital dedicated to St. Anthony, and a house of Carmelite friars, but we find no particulars recorded in relation to them.

At WILFORD, a village built on the south side of the Trent, was dug up some years ago, a large pot, in which was a great number of Roman copper coins.

On a hill near BARTON, to the south of Nottingham, are the remains of a camp, supposed to have been British, from several ancient coins found in it.

At HOLM-PIERPOINT, a village seated on the south side of the Trent, three miles east of Nottingham, is a fine seat belonging to the duke of Kingston, adorned with spacious gardens.

At RUDDINGTON, about four miles south of Nottingham, William Babington founded a college in the reign of Henry the Sixth, for a warden and four chaplains, which, at the suppression, was endowed with revenues valued at 30 l. a year.

CLIFTON, a village seated on the Trent, about four miles south-west of Nottingham, is the seat of the family of the Cliftons. The house is situated on the side of a hill, and the gardens slope down the side in several terraces towards the

Trent. On the top of the hill has been lately built a handsome room, which commands a view of the castle of Nottingham, and the adjoining meadows, with the Trent, winding its stream through them. The plantations about this seat, which were made by the late Sir Gervas Clifton, are very delightful.

Three miles to the west of Nottingham is WOLLATON-HALL, the seat of the lord Middleton, one of the finest Gothic buildings in England. It was erected in the reign of queen Elizabeth; is built of stone in a noble taste, and encompassed by a very delightful park, walled round and planted with timber, and the gardens are very extensive. In these is a pretty summer-house, pannelled and cieled with looking-glass, under which is a grotto covered with shell-work, coral, and the like.

Seven miles to the south-by-west of Nottingham is GOTHAM, a village, the inhabitants of which have been for ages past, unjustly stigmatized for their stupidity, and ironically called the Wise Men of Gotham. Many ridiculous fables are handed down by tradition, of the innocent inhabitants of this village, particularly that having often heard the cuckow, but never seen her, they hedged in a bush, whence her note seemed to proceed, that being confined within so small a compass, they might, at length, satisfy their curiosity; and to favour this story, at a place called Courthill in this parish, is shewn a bush called by the name of Cuckow-bush. Indeed, it has been a custom among all nations to stigmatize the inhabitants of some particular spot for their folly. Thus the opprobrious district among the Greeks was Boeotia, and among the Thracians, Abdara, and in England, as we have just observed, it is Gotham.

At

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At KNIVERTON, a village seated near the south bank of the Trent, about seven miles from Nottingham, on a considerable cliff, is the seat of Sir Charles Molineux, Bart.

At LANGAR, about nine miles east-by-south of Nottingham, is the principal seat of the lord viscount How, which is adorned with a fine park, well stocked with deer. The house, since the death of the late lord How, governor of Barbadoes, has been much beautified by the lady Pembroke, his lordship's sister, who choosing to reside at this seat, during his present lordship's minority, adorned it at her own expence, with a fine front of stone towards the garden.

At STANFORD, a village seated on the river Soar near Loughborough in Leicestershire, in the most southern part of this county, Mr. Camden tells us, there were many remains of antiquity in his time, and Roman coins were sometimes found; but it is probable he was misinformed, as nothing of that kind has been found there ever since.

At BEAUVALE, a village four miles north-west of Nottingham, was a priory of Carthusian monks, founded by Nicholas de Cantilupe, in the seventeenth year of the reign of Edward the Third, who dedicated it to the Trinity. About the time of the dissolution here were a prior and about nineteen monks, and the revenue of the priory was valued at 196 l. a year.

At FELLEY, about a mile north-west of Beauvale, was a convent of Black canons, founded by Ralph Brito, and Reginald de Annesley his son, in the year 1156. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had five or six religious at the suppression, when its revenue was valued at 40 l. 19 s. 1 d. per annum.

We shall now proceed north-by-west through Shirwood-forest to Mansfield, a large, well built

market town, on the western side of the county, thirteen miles north-by-west of Nottingham, and a hundred and thirty-eight in the same point from London. Some pretend, that the first earl of Mansfield in Germany was in this town, and present when king Arthur celebrated the feast of the Round-table, but this deserves no credit. It is much more certain, that our kings used to retire hither to enjoy the pleasure of hunting in the forest of Shirwood. This appears in an old inquisition, in which it is said, that Henry Falconberg held the manor of Cukeneby by sergeantry for shoeing the king's horse, when he came to Mansfield. It was anciently a royal demesné; king Henry the Third granted it a market, and also the privilege of housbote and haybote, out of his forest of Shirwood. It has a charity-school for thirty-six boys, and a good market on Thursdays, well stocked with corn, malt and cattle. It has also two fairs, held on the 29th of June, for horned cattle and hogs; and on the second Thursday in October, for horses and cheese, but this last is called a Meeting, the town having no charter for a fair on that day. By the ancient customs of the manor of Mansfield, the tenants, both men and women, were at liberty to marry; the heirs of estates were declared to be at full age as soon as they were born, and the lands were equally divided among the sons, and if there were no sons, among the daughters.

At a small distance to the north is MANSFIELD-WOOD-HOUSE, a genteel village, in a very pleasant situation, in which are the houses of several persons of rank and fortune.

About two miles to the south-west of Mansfield is SUTTON in ASHFIELD, a very large village, chiefly inhabited by farmers and stocking weavers, some of whom deal very largely to London, and others with the hosiers of Nottingham.

Five

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Five miles to the southward of Mansfield is **NEWSTED**-abbey, which was founded by Henry the Second, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. He endowed it with the several possessions of the church of Papplewick, the washes of Kigel, Bavenhead, &c. which was confirmed in the sixth year of the reign of king John, and conveyed in the reign of Henry the Eighth to Sir John Byron, who was steward of Manchester and Rochdale, constable of the castle of Nottingham, and lieutenant of the forest of Shirwood. Its revenue was then valued at 219l. a year. This abbey has belonged to that gentleman's posterity ever since, and is the seat of the present lord Byron. The greatest part of the abbey is converted into a dwelling house, which is very large and convenient, though not regular. At the end is the beautiful frontispiece of the old abbey, in the Gothic taste, and of very curious architecture. Large plantations and a park have been taken out of the forest and inclosed with pales.

Six miles to the eastward of Mansfield is **RUFORD**, a village that had a monastery of Cistercian monks founded by Gilbert de Gaunt, earl of Lincoln, in 1148. He endowed it with lands which lay in several places; besides which, many small benefactions were made to it by other persons. At the dissolution it was valued at 176l. a year, by Dugdale; and at 254 l. by Speed.

About six miles north of Mansfield is **WAR-SOP**, a village which has two fairs; the first on Whitsun-Monday, and the other on the 17th of November, for horned cattle and horses.

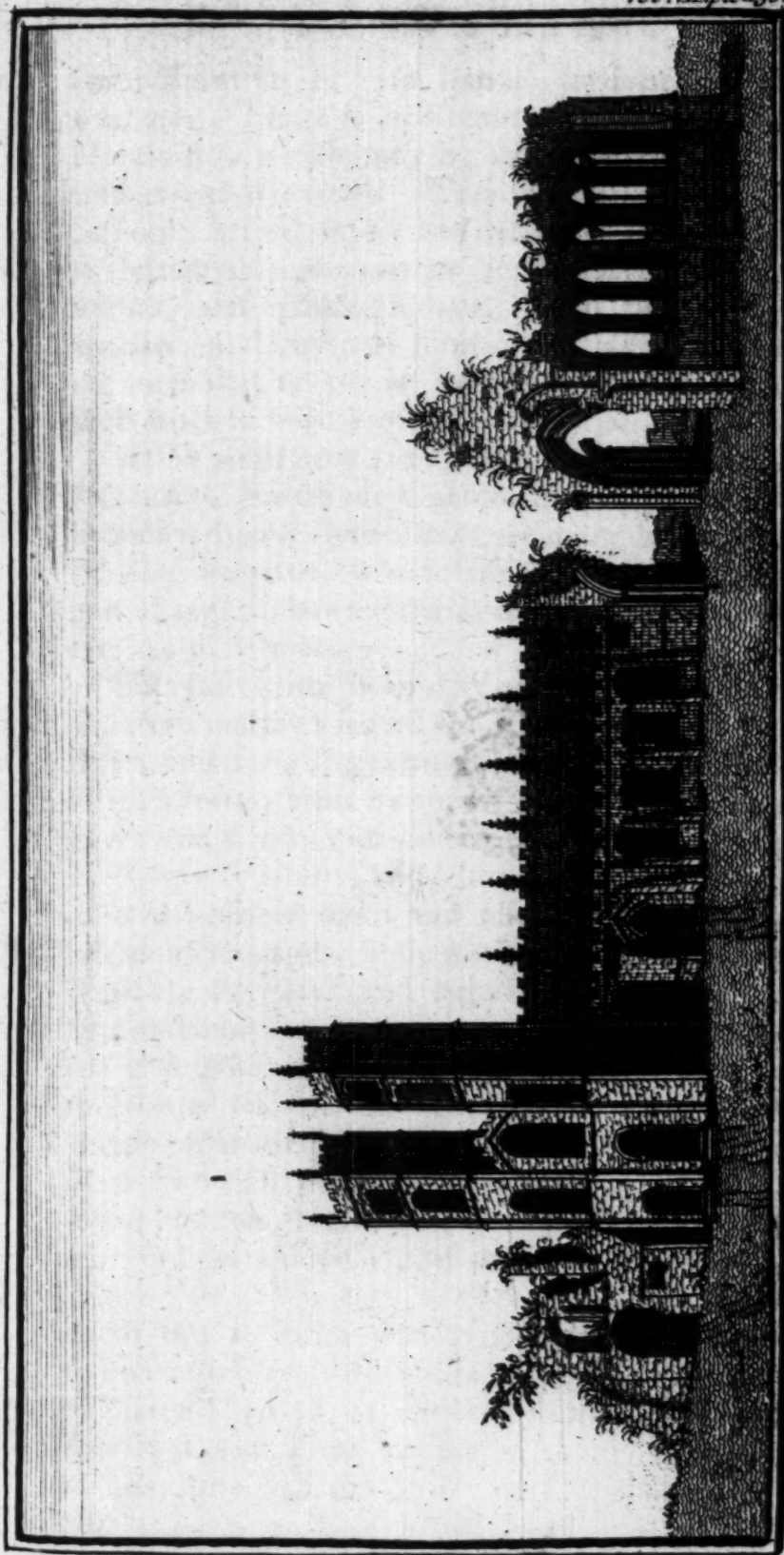
EDWINSTOW is a village seven miles north-east of Mansfield, where there is a fair on the 28th of October, for cattle, horses and hogs.

About four miles north of Warsop, and ten north of Mansfield is **WORKSOP**, which is seat-

ed at the head of a small river called the Rytou. Its market, which is on Wednesdays, is remarkable for great quantities of liquorice and malt. It has three fairs, held on the 20th of March, the 21st of June, and the 3d of October, for cattle, horses and pedlary. This town was formerly famous for its abbey, which was founded in the year 1103, by William de Lovetot, for canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, from which family it came to the Furnivals, and then to the Tolbots, earls of Shrewsbury, and their heirs, to have and to hold of that king in capite, by the service of a knight's fee, with the royal service of finding the king a right hand glove at his coronation, and to support his right arm that day, while he held the sceptre, paying yearly 23 l. 8 s. At the dissolution it was valued at 139 l. a year, by Dugdale; and at 302 l. by Speed. There are only some of the walls remaining, but there is still a handsome church, with two lofty tower-steeple at one end. Of the above ruins we have given an engraved view.

At Workfop manor, to the westward of Workfop, is a magnificent seat of the duke of Norfolk. The late structure, which was one of the finest in England, and contained above five hundred rooms, was, in the year 1761, burnt down to the ground, together with a fine library, a curious collection of pictures, and other valuable furniture, when the damage was computed at 100,000 l. but it has been since rebuilt with stone, on a very superb plan, with a fine front extending to a prodigious length.

At WELBECK, about two miles to the south of Workfop, was an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, founded in the year 1153, by Thomas le Flemangh, and dedicated to St. James. It was the chief abbey of this order in England, and at the



The South West View of Work Sop Abbey, in the County of Nottingham.



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the dissolution had an annual revenue of 249 l. 6 s. 3 d. There is but little of the old structure remaining, which may be easily distinguished by its antique windows. The other part is a noble building belonging to the duke of Portland, and is beautified with large additions, fine apartments, and good gardens. The park is well wooded, and contains some of the largest and oldest trees that are to be found in England, and is well stocked with a great number of deer.

At WALLINGWELLS, four miles north-west of Worksop, Ralph de Capreocuria, built and endowed a small Benedictine nunnery in the reign of king Stephen, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was valued at the dissolution at 48 l. 9 s. 10 d. a year.

Six miles north of Worksop is BLITH, or BLYTH, a town seated on the borders of Yorkshire, and has a large church, and an hospital called Blith's spital, built by one of the family of Cressy. Here was a priory of Benedictine monks, founded by Roger de Builly, and Muriel his wife, who gave to it the whole town and church of Blith, with all its appendages, besides other lands. Idonea de Vipont, daughter and heiress of Roger de Busly, in the year 1232, confirmed to the monks all the gifts of her ancestors. This monastery continued till the dissolution, when its yearly revenues amounted to about 126 l. Here was also an hospital for a warden, three chaplains, and several leprous people, founded by William de Cressy, lord of Holdesac, which was valued at the dissolution at 8 l. 14 s. a year. This was the hospital now called the Spital. Blith has a market on Wednesdays, with a fair on Holy-Thursday, for horned cattle and horses; and on the 6th of October, for sheep and hogs.

At

At MATTERSEY, a village to the north-east of Blith, was a priory of Gilbertine canons, founded by Roger, the son of Ranulph de Maresey, before the year 1192, and dedicated to St. Helen. At the suppression it was valued at 130 l. 13 s. per annum.

Three miles north of Blith is BAUTRY, or BAWTRY, which is situated on the river Idle, partly in this county, and partly in Yorkshire; but as the greatest part of the town is in the last mentioned county, it will be proper to treat of it there.

At GRINGLEY, six miles east of Bawtry, is a fair held on the 12th of December, for cattle and merchandize, particularly great quantities of boots and shoes.

We shall now turn to the east, and enter the road which leads south to REDFORD, or RETFORD. This town is seated on the river Idle, about three miles to the west of the great road from London to York, and five miles south-west of Blith. It had the name of Redford, from a ford over the river Idle, and is sometimes called East-Redford, from its situation on the east bank of that river, and to distinguish it from a village situated on the opposite bank, and therefore called West-Redford. It is a royal demesne, and king Edward the First granted the town in fee-farm to the burgeses, with power to choose two bailiffs for its government; but by a charter granted by king James the First, it is at present governed by two bailiffs, a steward, twelve aldermen, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, and two serjeants at mace. The bailiffs are distinguished by the titles of senior and junior; the former of whom is chosen out of the aldermen, and the junior out of such freemen as have been chamberlains. The bailiffs and steward for the time being are justices of the peace, and of the quorum within the borough.

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borough. The church is a handsome, commodious structure, and at the east end, over the altar, is a picture of Christ's last supper with his disciples. Here is a free grammar-school, and a good town-hall, in which are held the sessions for the town, and under it are the shambles. This town is seated among large plantations of hops, and carries on a considerable trade in hops and barley for malting. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on the 23d of March, and the 2d of October, for horses and horned cattle. This town is joined to West-Redford, by a stone bridge over the Idle; however they are two distinct parishes, and West-Redford is only remarkable for its fine hospital, founded by Sir John Dorrel, doctor of physick, in the year 1666, and is governed by a master and ten brethren. The master's salary is 15 l. a year, and the ten brethren have each 10 l. besides 10 s. for a load of coals every year, and six yards of cloth every other year. Twenty nobles is allowed to a steward, and fifteen shillings to a nurse. There is a garden and orchard adjoining, divided into ten shares, for the ten brethren, and also an allowance of about 10 l. a year, for the maintenance of a scholar in Exeter-college, Oxford.

At TILNEY, a mile and a half north of Redford, was found, some years ago, a druidical amulet, consisting of a transparent stone of an aqueous colour, with streaks of yellow. At the same time was discovered a Roman stylus, and several cornelians and agates, with engravings and Roman inscriptions.

About nine miles east of Redford is LITTLE-BOROUGH, a village seated on the river Trent, and has long been famous for a ferry into Lincolnshire. This is thought to have been a Roman town, called Agelocum, or Segelocum. It was
of

of a square form, and seems to have been anciently encompassed with a ditch. Several Roman pavements, and foundations of ancient buildings, have been discovered on the east side of the town, part of which has been washed away by the river; Roman urns have likewise been dug up, and Dr. Gale here saw an urn, which, besides ashes and bones, contained a coin of Domitian. In 1718 two altars were found in this place, and great numbers of Roman coins have, from time to time, been discovered by plowing and digging, with many other remains of antiquity; and on the east side of the river, opposite to Littleborough, are still to be seen the traces of an ancient camp.

Eight miles south of Redford is TUXFORD, commonly called TUXFORD-IN-THE-CLAY, from its being situated in the division called the South Clay. The town is not large, it being only about three furlongs in length, and is an ordinary dirty place. It is, however, a post town, and a good thoroughfare, in the post-road from Newark to York. Great part of this town was burnt down on the 8th of September, 1702, but it has been since rebuilt in a more handsome manner than before. Here is a good free-school, built by Charles Read, Esq; and endowed with 50 l. a year, for a master and usher, 20 l. per annum, for boarding and teaching four ministers sons, or those of decayed gentlemen, and 20 l. more, for teaching the boys of the town. The trustees for this school, are the mayor and aldermen of Newark, and six of the neighbouring gentlemen. There is here a good market on Mondays, and two fairs, held on the 3d of September, for horses and hogs; and on the 12th of May, for horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and millenary goods.

Seven

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Seven miles east of Tuxford is DUNHAM, or DUNHOLM, a village that has a fair on the 12th of August, for horned cattle and merchandize.

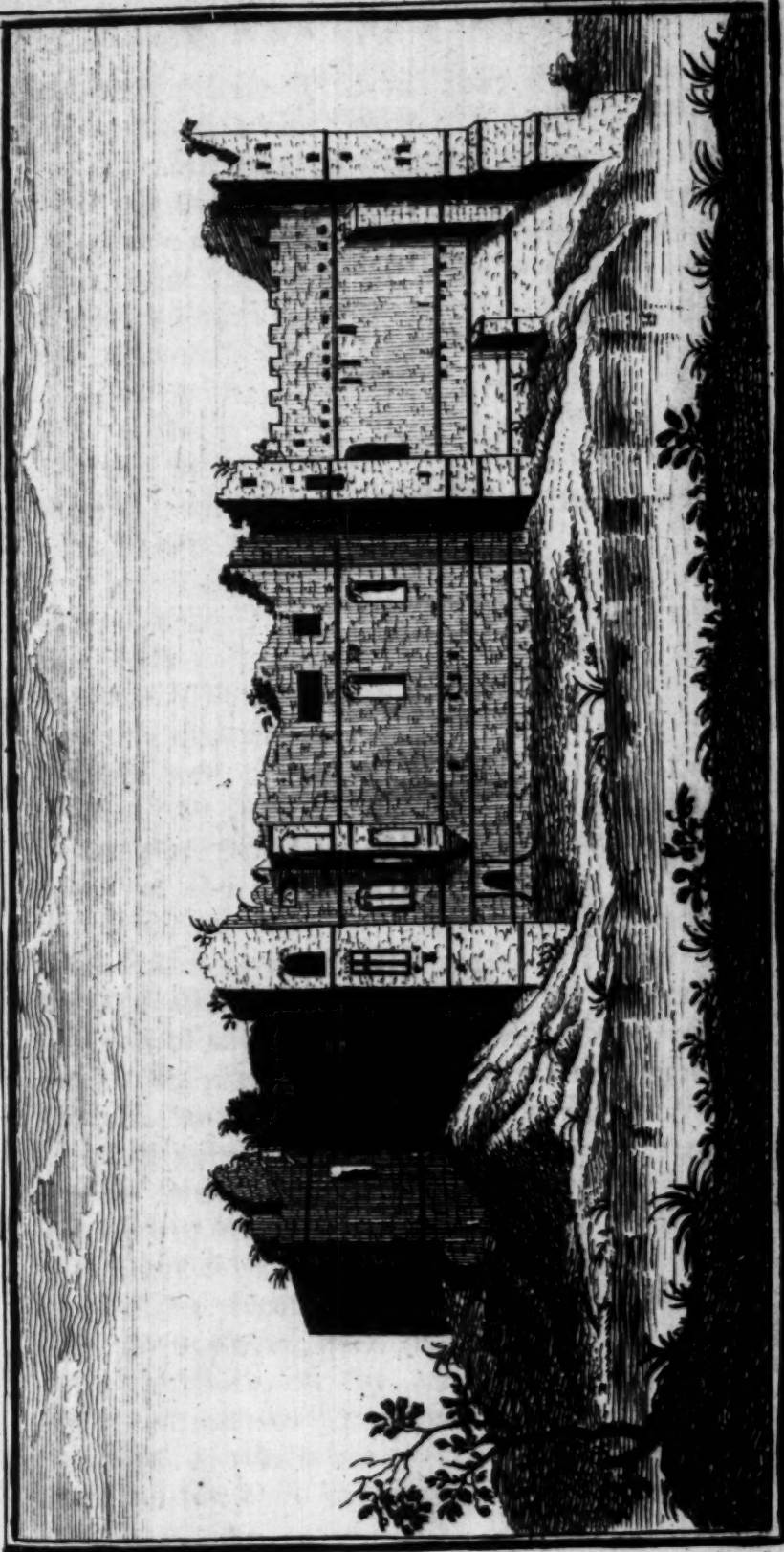
Eleven miles to the eastward of Tuxford is BRODHOLM, or BROADHAM priory, seated on the borders of Lincolnshire, which was founded by Agnes de Camvile, wife of Peter Goulla, about the end of the reign of king Stephen, for a prioress and nuns of the Premonstratensian order. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and its income at the dissolution was valued at 16 l. 5 s. 2 d. a year.

At NORTH CLIFTON, a village seated on the east side of the Trent, seven miles east of Clifton, was a small college for a warden and three priests, begun by Sir Robert, and finished by his son Sir Gervas de Clifton, in the reign of Edward the Fourth. It was dedicated to the Trinity, and valued upon the dissolution at 21 l. 2 s. 6 d. per annum.

Fourteen miles to the south-east of Tuxford is NEWARK, which is seated on the river Trent, a hundred and thirty-eight miles north-west of London, and fourteen miles north-east of Nottingham. It derives its name from a castle, built in the reign of king Stephen, by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, and called the New Work, and from thence the town is said to have taken its name. This castle was besieged by the barons, but the garrison, by their sallies, ravaged and spoiled those of their possessions and lands that lay near it. On the accession of Henry the Third to the throne, the barons had obtained this castle, but Henry caused it to be restored to the bishop of Lincoln. During the civil wars, it kept a strong garrison for king Charles the First till the last, nor was it ever taken till that unfortunate prince put himself into the hands of the Scots army, which lay before

before it, and ordered the governor to deliver it up, after which it was demolished: a great part of the walls are however still standing, and of these we have given a view. The river Trent, about two miles south of the town, divides into two branches, which form a small island, by uniting about two miles north of it. Newark is seated on the eastern branch, and has a bridge over each of them. The church is esteemed one of the finest parish churches in England, of the Gothic kind, and all the windows are finely painted. Here are also several meeting-houses. The town was first incorporated by king Edward the Sixth, and was governed by one alderman, and twelve assistants; but by a charter of king Charles the Second, it is at present governed by a mayor, and twelve aldermen. It is a handsome, flourishing, well built town, and has a noble market-place, so spacious, that lord Ballasye drew up ten thousand men in it, when he defended the town, for king Charles the First, against the Scotch army. Here is a free-school founded by Thomas Magnus, and a charity-school for thirty-six boys, supported by voluntary contributions. This town sends two representatives to parliament, who are elected by the inhabitants paying scot and lot. It has a large market on Wednesdays, and six fairs, held on the Friday before Passion-Sunday; and the Friday in Mid-lent, on the 14th of May, on Whitsun-Tuesday, the 2d of August, and the 1st of November, for horses, horned cattle, sheep, pigs, linen and woollen cloth; and on the Monday before the 11th of December, for horses, horned cattle, sheep and pigs.

Newark was formerly walled round; and some have thought that it was the Roman station, called Ad Pontem, in the itinerary of Antoninus; but



The West Prospect of Newark Castle in the County of Nottingham.



but Horsley is of opinion, that that station must be sought for two or three miles south-west of this town, though he makes no doubt of its having risen out of the ruins of Ad Pontem on one side, and those of Crocolana on the other. Some Roman coins have been found in the town, and Dr. Stukeley observes, that North Gate is somewhat like a Roman work.

A few miles to the north of Newark is COL-
LINGHAM, a village near the Fosse-way, where there is the appearance of a Roman station; and several coins of the emperor Constantine have been found there.

About four miles and a half from Newark is SOUTHWELL, generally called SUTHELL, which is seated on a small stream, called the Greet, that falls into the Trent, about two miles south of the town. It has a church, called a Minster, that is both parochial and collegiate. It is said to have been founded by Paulinus, the first archbishop of York, about the year 630. It was surrendered to the king in the thirty-second year of Henry the Eighth; but three years after was refounded; restored to its ancient privileges, and incorporated by the name of the chapter of the collegiate church of the Blessed Mary, the Virgin of Southwell. Its privileges were confirmed by queen Elizabeth, and afterwards by king James the First. This structure was set on fire by lightning on the 5th of November, 1711, when all the body of it was burnt except the choir. In this fire, a set of excellent bells was melted, a fine organ consumed, and other damages done to the value of 4000 l. It has, however, been repaired, and is a plain Gothic structure, in the form of a cross, with two spires at the west end, and a high tower in the middle, in which are eight bells. Its length from east to west is three hundred and six feet, its
breadth

breadth fifty-nine, and the length of the cross isle from north to south, one hundred and twenty-one feet. It has no painted figures in the glass-work, nor images, nor so much as a niche capable of holding an image, whence it has been conjectured, that it was built before images were introduced into churches. There is a handsome chapter-house on the north side of the choir. To this church belong sixteen prebendaries or canons, six vicars choral, an organist, six singing men, six choristers, six boys, who attend as probationers, a register to the chapter, a treasurer, an auditor, a verger, and other officers and servants. Adjoining to the church is a free-school, under the care of the chapter, where the choristers are taught gratis, as well as other boys belonging to the town.

The master is chosen by the chapter, and must be approved by the archbishop of York. There are two fellowships, and two scholarships in St. John's college in Cambridge, founded by Dr. Keton, canon of Salisbury, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, to be presented by the master and fellows of that college, out of such as have been choristers in this church. The chapter has a peculiar jurisdiction over twenty-eight parishes, to most of which it has the right of presentation, as well as to other parishes in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. This jurisdiction is exercised by a vicar-general, or commissary, who is chosen by the chapter out of their own body, and holds visitations twice a year. Besides these, there are two annual synods, at which all the clergy in the county of Nottingham pay their attendance; and a certain number of the prebendaries of this church, and others of the considerable clergy, are by the archbishop of York, appointed commissioners to preside at these synods.

South-

Southwell is divided into two parts, one called the Burgage, or Burridge, which comprehends all that part of the town which lies between the market-place, and the river Greet, where the inhabitants hold their lands or tenements of the lord, at a certain annual rent : the other part is called the Prebendage, and consists of the liberties of the church. The civil government is here distinct from that of the county in general, and is called the Soke of Southwell and Scroby, a town near Blith. About twenty towns are subject to this jurisdiction : the custos rotulorum, and justices of the peace for which, are nominated by the archbishop of York, and constituted by a commission under the Great Seal.

Here are the ruins of a palace belonging to the bishop of York, which was demolished in the civil wars ; but by what remains it appears to have been a large and stately structure, supposed to have been built by cardinal Wolsey, when he was archbishop of York ; but others are of opinion it was erected by archbishop Booth, from the remains of a chapel, which still bears his name. The archbishop of York had three parks here, which, tho' they are now disparked, still retain the name of parks ; and notwithstanding the archbishops have no seat here, they have ever since the conquest been lords of the manor, and by grant from the crown, enjoy great privileges in this town, they having the returns of writs on all their lands, tenements, and fees ; and besides the sessions of the peace, which is kept by turns at Southwell and Scroby, by justices of their own nomination, they have a right to hold a court-leet over several townships. Southwell has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on Whitsun-Monday, for horses, horned cattle, sheep, swine, and merchandize.

Three miles south of Southwell is THURGARTON, a village where there was a priory of canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, founded and endowed with lands and tithes by Ralph de Ayncourt, about the year 1130. It had afterwards many benefactors, among whom were several of the family of the Villers, all which gifts were recited and confirmed by Henry the Second, and Edward the Third. At the suppression its revenues, according to Dugdale, amounted to 259 l. 9 s. 4 d. a year; and according to Speed, to 359 l. This building is, at present, a spacious dwelling-house, at the end of which is a church, with a fine high tower of curious Gothic workmanship.

Nine miles to the southward of Newark, and seven miles to the westward of Nottingham, is BINGHAM, a small market town, in which the parsonage is of great value; there is a charity-school, with a market on Thursdays, and three fairs, held on the 20th and 21st of February, for strong horses; and the first Tuesday in May, for horses, horned cattle, sheep and swine; and on the 8th of November, chiefly for foals and hogs. There was formerly in this town a college dedicated to St. Mary, which was valued at the dissolution at 40 l. 11 s. per annum.

At about three miles to the north of Bingham is SIBTHORP, a village that has a church dedicated to St. Peter, in which is a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, wherein Jeffrey le Scroop founded a chauntry of several priests, in the reign of Edward the Second; and in the next reign this chauntry was raised to a considerable collegiate body, consisting of a warden, and eight or nine chaplains, with three clerks and other officers, by Thomas le Sibthorp, rector of Beckingham in Lincolnshire. The
annual

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annual value of this chauntry, at its suppression, was rated at 31 l. 1 s. 2 d.

Three miles north-west of Bingham is **EAST-BRIDGEFORD**, so called to distinguish it from another village, seated to the south-west near Nottingham. It is situated on the Trent near the fosse-way, and there are still to be seen the remains of a Roman station, where many coins, urns, and other reliques of antiquity, have been found, among which was a silver coin of Vespasian. This station Horsley supposes to be the Margidunum of Antoninus.

About two miles west of Bridgeford is **SHELFORD**, which is seated on the Trent, six miles north-east of Nottingham. Near this village was an abbey of regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, erected by Ralph Hansfelyne, in the reign of Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and a little before its suppression had twelve canons, whose yearly revenue, according to Speed, amounted to 151 l. 14 s. 1 d.

At **STOKE**, three miles west of Bingham, and between four and five miles north-east of Nottingham, was a very ancient and well endowed hospital, but its value at the dissolution is not mentioned.

Eight miles to the southward of Bingham is **WILLOUGHBY-ON-THE-WOULF**, which is seated on the edge of Leicestershire, nine miles south-by-east of Nottingham, near the Fosse-way. In a field belonging to this village, are said to be the ruins of a town called Long Bellington, demolished many ages ago. Roman coins are frequently found here, whence it has been thought to have been a Roman station.

Among

Among the great men born in this county, were the following.

Thomas Cranmer, the most eminent archbishop that ever sat in the see of Canterbury, was born of a good family, July the 2d, 1489, at Aslacton in this county, and educated at Jesus college in Cambridge, where, in 1523, he was made doctor of divinity. His first introduction to court was owing to the advice which he gave to king Henry the Eighth, with regard to his marriage with Catharine of Spain. This was to consult all the universities of Europe; and Henry had no sooner received this hint, than he swore, with more alacrity than delicacy, "that Cranmer had got the right sow by the ear." He immediately sent for that divine to court, and dispatched him as his ambassador into France, Italy and Germany; and he afterwards raised him to the see of Canterbury. From this time forwards, during the whole remaining part of that reign, and all the succeeding, Cranmer continued at the head of the church, and had likewise a considerable share in matters of a civil nature. He divorced the king from Catharine of Spain; he married him to Anne Boleyn; he opposed the supremacy of the Pope, whom he even excommunicated; he promoted the dissolution of the monasteries, but disapproved of the king's appropriating to himself the whole revenues of these religious houses. He likewise opposed, with great vigour, the passing of the act, called the Six Articles. He had a hand in writing the *Bishop's Book*, as also that entitled, *The necessary Erudition of a Christian Man*; and he procured an order for reading the English Bible. But his zeal in promoting the reformation, exposed him to the resentment of the Catholics, who drew up an accusation against him. The charge, however, was proved false, and his
other

enemies subjected to a severe punishment. Upon the accession of king Edward the Sixth, he crowned that prince, and, with the assistance of the other bishops, composed the Homilies; and he likewise got an act of parliament passed, establishing the book of Common-Prayer. But, on the death of king Edward, joining with the party of the lady Jane Gray, he was, upon the accession of queen Mary, attainted of high-treason; and though he obtained a pardon for that crime, he was yet conveyed to Oxford, and there condemned for heresy. He recanted, however, and even signed his recantation: but he afterwards recovered from his weakness, and being committed to the flames, he received the crown of martyrdom. So deeply was he affected with the last instance of his inconstancy, that he held the hand, with which he had signed his recantation, in the flames, until it was burnt off, frequently exclaiming in the midst of his torments, "this hand has offended." He was certainly a man of great probity and learning, and one of the chief authors, as well as one of the greatest ornaments of the reformation. Some of his works were published in his life-time; others after his death; and some of them are still in manuscript.

John Holles, the first earl of Clare of that name, was descended from an ancient family, and born at Haughton in the county of Nottingham, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign. Upon his first going to the university, which was in the thirteenth year of his age, he acquitted himself so well at his examination, that the master of the college embraced him tenderly, saying, *This child, if he lives, will prove a singular honour and ornament to this kingdom.* From the university he removed to Gray's Inn, in London, where he ap-

plied himself for some time to the study of the law. His first station at court was that of one of the gentlemen of the band of pensioners. He took, for his motto, the following sentence, *Qui inimicum timet, amicum non amat*, i. e. He that fears his enemy, loves not his friend; a sentiment well suited to his gallant spirit, of which he gave, on many occasions, the most incontestible proofs. He distinguished himself particularly in the wars of the Netherlands, in those against the Turks, in the defeat of the Spanish armada, and in suppressing the Irish rebels. In the reign of king James the First he was thrown into prison; but after remaining there for a few weeks, he came out, to the surprize of every one, a baron of England, having paid for this dignity 10,000 l. to the then great favourite, the duke of Buckingham. About eight years after, viz. in 1624, he gave 5000 l. to the same potent nobleman, for the dignity of earl of Clare. Nevertheless, in the beginning of king Charles the First's reign, he was one of the most violent enemies of this very duke; nor did his enmity terminate but with the death of the latter. He died on the 4th of October, 1637, in the seventy-third year of his age.

Denzil Holles, baron of Isfield, and second son of John Holles, earl of Clare, was born at Haughton in Nottinghamshire, in the year 1597. Being chosen a member of parliament in 1627, he and Mr. Valentine were the persons, who held the speaker of the House of Commons forcibly in the chair, till the resolutions of the House were read. In 1641 he was one of the five members accused of high treason by king Charles the First; in consequence of which harsh treatment, he sided with the parliament upon the breaking out of the civil war. He opposed, however, with great courage, their taking away the king's life, and the

the usurpation of Cromwell ; and afterwards heartily concurred in the restoration. For these instances of his loyalty, he was, by king Charles the Second, advanced to the dignity of a baron of England, by the stile of lord Holles of Isfield, in the county of Suffex. He died on the 17th of February, 1680, in the eighty-second year of his age.


William Chappel, a worthy prelate of the last century, was born of obscure parentage, at Lexington in Nottinghamshire, December the 10th, 1582. After finishing his studies at Cambridge, he was preferred, by the interest of Dr. Laud, then bishop of London, to the deanery of Cashel in Ireland, upon the promotion of dean Jones to the bishopric of Killaloe. He afterwards became provost of Trinity-college in Dublin, where he distinguished himself greatly by his prudence and moderation ; and, in 1638, he was advanced to the united bishoprics of Cork, Cloyne and Ross. In this station he continued till the breaking out of the grand Irish rebellion, when he was obliged to leave the kingdom ; and returning to England, he passed the rest of his days at Derby, where he died upon Whitsunday 1649 : he wrote several tracts, and is supposed by some critics to be the author of that excellent work, entitled, *The whole Duty of Man*.

John Lightfoot, a learned divine, and able commentator in the seventeenth century, was born at Stoke-upon-Trent, in this county, on the 19th of March, 1602. He had his education at Christ's college in Cambridge, where he took the degree of bachelor of arts. He afterwards became chaplain to Sir Rowland Cotton, by whose example and encouragement, he perfected himself in Rabbinical learning. He had once formed a design of travelling into foreign parts ; but was persuaded

to change his resolution by the inhabitants of Stone in Staffordshire, who chose him their minister. Thence he removed to Hornsey near London, that he might enjoy the benefit of Sion-college library, in prosecuting his studies. In 1642 he was elected minister of St. Bartholomew's behind the Exchange, and next year was nominated a member of the assembly of divines. In 1645 he was appointed to preach before the House of Commons; and, in the sermon which he delivered upon that occasion, he recommended to the House a Review and Survey of the Translation of the Bible, and a speedy, and effectual settlement of the church; and he expressed his joy at what they had done, in *Platforming Classes and Presbyteries; which I verily and cordially believe, says he, is according to the Pattern in the Mount*. In the same sermon, he inveighed, with great vehemence, against the folly of allowing an unrestrained liberty of conscience. In 1652 he took the degree of doctor in divinity; and about three years after was chosen vice-chancellor of the university of Cambridge. Upon the restoration of king Charles the Second, he was in some danger of being deprived of his preferments; but by the good offices of archbishop Sheldon, and others, he was not only confirmed in the possession of them, but was also presented, by the lord-keeper Bridgeman, to a prebendary's place in the cathedral of Ely. He died of a fever, December the 6th, 1675, and was interred at Munden, of which parish he was rector. His works were published, first in two volumes, and afterwards in three volumes, folio. His harmony of the Old and New Testament is his most considerable performance.



O X F O R D S H I R E.

XFORDSHIRE is an inland county, called by the Saxons Oxenfordscire, and is bounded on the north-east by Northamptonshire; on the north-west by Warwickshire; on the east by Buckinghamshire; on the south by Berkshire, and on the west by Gloucestershire; extending in its greatest length about forty-two miles, and in its greatest breadth from east to west, twenty-six; and is about one hundred and thirty miles in circumference. Woodstock, which is nearly in the center, is seated sixty miles north-west of London.

This county, in common with Gloucestershire, was, at the invasion of the Romans, inhabited by the Dobuni, of whom we have made some mention in our account of Gloucestershire: also the Anealites, a people mentioned by Caesar, seem to have inhabited these parts, and are generally thought to have been seated at the south end of the county. With regard to antiquities, few or none have been found that are British, except some pieces of their money, particularly some of Cunobelin, said to be king here, at the time of the birth of our Saviour. It is remarkable, that all these British pieces are concave on one side, and convex on the other, and that they are all of gold, or at least of a mixture of gold and silver. Ike-nild-street, one of the four Roman principal ways in

England, enters Oxfordshire out of Buckinghamshire, at a village called Chinnar, and running south-west, passes the river Thames into Berkshire at Goring, about half way between Reading and Wallingford. The Akeman-street, a Roman consular way, thus called from Akemancester, the ancient name of the city of Bath, to which it leads, enters this county from Buckinghamshire near Bicester, and running south-west through Woodstock park, crosses the rivers Charwell, Evenlode, and Windrush, and enters Gloucestershire, to the south-west of Burford. There are also still the remains of one of the Roman vicinal ways, at present called Grimes-Dyke, which enters this county from Berkshire, near Wallingford, crosses the Thames, and running south-east, crosses Ikenild-street, and passes the Thames a second time near Henley in Berkshire. This road appears for the most part a high causeway or bank, and in some places divides into two causeways, with a deep trench between them. Roman coins and medals, several pavements, urns, lachrymatories, and vessels for oil, have been found in this county.

The air of Oxfordshire is not inferior to that of any other county in England; for the soil being naturally dry, and free from bogs, fens, and stagnant waters, and abounding with quick limpid streams, every thing concurs to render the air sweet and salubrious.

The most considerable rivers of this county are the Thames, or Isis, the Tame, the Charwell, the Evenlode, and the Windrush. Of the Thames we have already given an account in treating of Middlesex; but it will be proper to observe here, that the people of Oxford call the Thames, before the Tame falls into it, by the name of Isis, and the poets have frequently celebrated the junction

tion of these rivers under the agreeable fiction of the marriage of Tame and Isis: but Mr. Camden observes, that the Thames did not receive its name from the junction of those two rivers; but from the Saxon Temese, and that it was always called the Thames, before it received the Tame; which he proves from several charters, and the words of ancient historians; who mention the passage of troops over the Thames in Wiltshire. He likewise observes, that the word Isis is only known to scholars, the common people from its head to Oxford calling it by no other name but the Thames.

The Tame rises in Buckinghamshire, and entering Oxfordshire, at a market town of its own name, runs westward for some miles, parting this county from Buckinghamshire.

The Charwell has its source in Northamptonshire, and entering Oxfordshire near Cleydon, the most northern village in the county, runs south, and falls into the Thames near Oxford. In this river is plenty of an uncommon fish, called the Finscale; it is of the scaly kind, and somewhat like a roach, only all its fins, except those at its gills, and that on its back, are much redder than those of that fish. It has a full black eye, encompassed with a yellow iris. The fin on its back is of a dirty bluish colour; the scales, especially near the back, are of a greenish yellow, and from the gills to the tail runs a crooked line.

The Evenlode rises near a town of its own name, not far from Stow-in-the-Wold, a market town in Gloucestershire, and running south-east thro' Oxfordshire, falls into the Thames to the north-west of Oxford.

The Windrush rises in Cotswold-hills in Gloucestershire, and running south-east, enters Oxfordshire near Burford, and passing by Whitney,

enters the Thames, to the south-west of the Even-dole.

Besides these principal rivers, it has been observed by Dr. Plot, in his natural history of this county, that there are seventy lesser streams, besides small brooks, not worthy of notice.

In this county are also several mineral and petrefying springs, particularly Chadlington-water, so called from a village where it rises, three miles south of Chipping-Norton. This water smells like the washing of a foul gun, and a gallon yields ninety grains of sediment, of which seven are earth, and the rest a peculiar sort of nitre. From other experiments it is found to be impregnated with sulphur, and an alkaline salt mixed with sea-salt. It is accounted a purging water.

At Clifton, a village two miles east of Dod-dington, there is a clear water that has little taste, which yields a peculiar kind of nitre, inclinable to an alcali. It is laxative, and used to cure diseases of the skin in men and cattle, by bathing in it.

At Doddington, a small market town north of Oxford, there is a strong sulphureous water, that smells like the washings of a foul gun. A gallon yields eighty-seven grains of sediment, whereof forty-four are earth, and forty-three salt. It is impregnated with sulphur and iron, both of which are very volatile; besides which, it has salt enough to give it a purgative quality.

At Sommerton there is a rivulet that forms a small cascade of about seven feet, and has a petrefying quality, in consequence of which blades of grass of about half a year old are covered with stone, and hang down the bank like so many icicles: the earth itself is covered over with a crust of stone. But it is very remarkable, that the blades of grass thus covered, appear as green as before, and hang
down

down to the length of a foot; yet the grass may be taken by one end, and be pulled quite out as a knife from a sheath. However, the same does not happen every where, for just on the other side of the river at North-Ashton, the roots of rushes, grass, moss, and the like, are eaten away in such a manner, that nothing remains after the petrification is compleated, except the figures of the plants, with some augmentation. In the suburbs of Oxford is also a ditch, whose water covers sticks with a stony crust; and the water of a pump, at the Cross inn, near Carfax, in that city, not only covers boards with a crust, but enters the pores of the wood, and rots it away by degrees, in such a manner, that at length it becomes perfect stone.

It is observable, that petrifications of this kind are always brittle, and tho' they sometimes shew the grain, yet they never preserve the colour of the wood. However, they are incombustible in the fire, and undergo no other change, except becoming more white; and yet they will dissolve in distilled vinegar; and the Sommerton crust wholly dissolves with aqua fortis into a white substance.

As in this county there is one of the noblest seminaries of learning in the whole world, it is not at all surprizing that its natural history has been more minutely and accurately examined; and that by this means we are enabled to give a fuller account of its natural productions than of many other counties.

Besides the different kinds of earth in this county, of which we shall hereafter take notice, there is found at Shottover the best oker in the world, which is of a yellow colour, very heavy, and of great use to painters. The vein dips from east to west: it lies from seven to thirty feet deep, and is from two to seven inches thick,

Under the marle at Blund's court, there is found a native blue, but the quantity is so small, that a sufficient quantity cannot be obtained for the use of the painters, there being only a thin coat of it spread in the small cavities of the earth, and on some other bodies.

Gritty umbers are found in all parts of the county, where there are quarries of stone; particularly a coarse sort near Whitney, and one somewhat finer at Bladen quarry. These which are sometimes found in the seams of rocks, and at others in the body of the stone, are used by the leather-dressers. A still finer sort has been dug up at Waterperry, of so rich and beautiful a colour, that it may be reckoned a kind of oker.

In the parish of Nettlebed is found an earth as red as bole-armenic, but it does not colour the hands like that.

There is also a white porous fine brittle earth, without either taste or smell, that will dissolve in water, tinge it of a milky colour, and sometimes ferment with it. It is frequently found in the seams of the rocks, and is thought to be the same that Wormius calls *Lac Lunae*. The quarry-men say, that the finding of it is a sign of there being good lime-stone near. The best, for quantity and goodness, is found in the parish of Comwell, where it is so pure, that its whiteness is not inferior to that of snow. It has been long used as a cosmetic, and its medicinal virtues are judged to be the same as those of the Samian-earth, and to be of great use in stopping of blood, and in womens diseases. There is another white earth found within round hollow flints, and may be had almost every where in the Chiltern country. When boiled in milk it is accounted good to stop fluxes, and has been used in consumptions with good success. The stone in which it grows,
they

they here call the Chalk-egg, and is the same as the Geobes of the ancient naturalists.

The stones and fossils found in this county are not less remarkable than the earths.

In the fields between Clifton and Newenham-Courtney, was found a stone, which represented a sound piece of ash, and when cut any way, its grain and colour were so lively, that any one, at first sight, would take it for solid wood. In a gravelly ground, in the parish of Wendlebury, another was found resembling a piece of oak; there even seemed to be the places where twigs had proceeded, and the knots where they were cut off; whence it has been thought to have been once real wood.

In a quarry called Langford-pits, in the parish of Kidlington, is found a black substance, resembling wood half burnt, which will not swim when put in water, and in the fire consumes but slowly, sending forth disagreeable fumes; some, however, make use of it for fuel. At Ducklington is a finer sort, which, when broken, resembles stone-pitch, and has not so bad a smell as the other.

With regard to the stones in Oxfordshire, the Pyrites-aureus, or golden fire-stone, is found in great plenty in digging wells about Banbury and Cleydon. These strike fire extremely well with steel, and were formerly made use of for gun-flints. They are very heavy, and probably contain metal, but it cannot be extracted from them, on account of the great quantity of sulphur, which carries it off in the crucible.

At Aston-Rowant, Nettlebed, Henley, and all along the Chiltern country, they have another kind of marcasite, which is on the inside of a golden colour, and of a darkish rusty colour without. When broken and laid in the sun, it dissolves into a salt that has the taste of ink. This is probably of the same kind as that

used for making of coperas at Deptford. The silver marcasite is white and glittering, and is found in the bottom of the river between Clifton and Burcot. It strikes fire with steel, but will neither dissolve in the air, nor send forth any efflorescence.

There is as great a plenty and variety of free-stone in this county, as in any other part of the kingdom. That in the quarry at Heddington near Oxford is fit for most uses; and as it cuts very soft and easy, while in the quarry, it is greatly used in building. Here are also rag-stones of several kinds. There is a fort dug up at Stansfield in thick pieces about Michaelmas, and after it has lain all the winter, will cleave into thinner plates. At Bradwell there is a sort of flat stone that wants no cleaving. This is sometimes found seven feet long, and five broad; and with these they commonly make mounds for their fields. Some of these are of so hard and close a texture, that some painters grind their colours upon them, and prefer them to marble.

Fire-stone is found in several parts of the county; but the best is at Hornton, where is a species that seems to have iron coloured veins, and will take a tolerable polish.

In the parish of Blachington is a sort of grey marble, of which several chimney-pieces have been made, and also the pillars of the porticos of St. John's college, Oxford. It also serves for tables, tomb-stones, and mill-stones for oil mills.

We shall now proceed to the formed stones, according to the method of Dr. Plot, and shall mention only a few of the most curious kinds. The asteriae, or star-stones, are plentifully found in the fields at Cleydon, the most northern parish in the county. Their texture consists of plates lying obliquely, they are generally an inch and a half in compass, and if they are steeped a night in vinegar,

gar, may be easily divided the next morning. Every joint consists of five angles, like the rays represented for a star, some of which are very obtuse, and others very acute. The middle of each angle is a little hollowed, and in the center of the five angles a small hole is visible in most of them.

The astroites, or starry stones, are of an irregular bulk, and adorned all over with stars; and of these there are four several sorts in this county; two of these sorts have the stars in mezzo rilievo; that is, prominent and standing outwards, with the streaks running from the center. These are found in the quarries of rubble-stone, near the foot of Shotover-hill. A third and more beautiful kind may be met with in the fields about Steeple-Barton; but these, quite contrary to the former, are deeply engraven like a seal, and streaked from the prominent edges above, to the center in the bottom; these are generally hexagons. The fourth sort, like the third, have streaks that descend in a concave, but from edges that are generally round, or with five angles at the top, tending to a smooth center, which is a little prominent. These are found in the quarries of rubble-stone, in Heddington parish; but the stars are not superficial as in the former kinds, they passing thro' the depth of the stone. The property of the astroites of moving in vinegar, is more remarkable in the asteriae, for these last will not only move in a whole joint, but in two or three of them connected together, whirling about in a brisker manner, and longer than any others. Dr. Lyster, and other naturalists, think this motion is owing to the corrosion of the menstruum, in which they are certainly right.

There are other stones which have been ignorantly thought to fall from the heavens, in storms of thunder, and are called Brontiae and Ombriae.

Of

Of these there are several sorts in this county, but they all agree in consisting of solid irregular hemispheres, and in being divided into five, generally unequal parts, by five rays proceeding from the center, and descending from it down the sides of the body. They are never found in beds together, like some of the other formed stones; but at Tangley, Folbrook, and about Burford, they are found in great plenty. Though the texture is nothing but a coarse rubble-stone, it is cased over with a fine laminated substance. The colour is generally yellow, and the rays consist of a double range of transverse lines, with void spaces between them, that are plainly to be seen on the top of the stone. The whole body of the stone, as well as the spaces included within the rays, are filled with annulets, much more curiously wrought by nature than they could be by the engraver's tools.

There is a sort of these that are more elevated, which are found somewhere in the Chiltern, and are, by the country people, called Cap-stones, from their resembling a cap laced down the sides. The rays of these are made up of two rows of points, set pretty deep in the body of the stone. There is another sort, in which the center corresponds with the figure of the stone, and is not included within the rays, as in the former; from this center there descend, as it were, double rays, made up of two double sets of points, which expanding themselves, as they draw towards the rim, at about the midway, are surrounded with annulets, each of which includes two points, and are for that reason all of an oval form. The inward substance is black flint, though without it is of an ash-colour.

There is another sort of stone, which in some places is called a Thunder-bolt. Those of this kind

kind resemble the heads of arrows, and are called by naturalists Belemnites, from the Greek word Belemnion, which signifies a dart. There are several sorts of these in this county, but all agree in having a small streaked texture, formed of a sort of threads proceeding from the center of the stone to the outermost surface. Likewise when they are burned or rubbed one against another, or scraped with a knife, they yield a smell like rasped horn. The largest of these are about four inches long, and about an inch and a quarter in diameter. One of these was found in the quarries of the parish of Heddington, and was hollowed at top to the depth of an inch. It was of an ash-colour inclining to yellow, and if rubbed hard, would draw straws like amber. Some are of a bluish colour, and are found at Great Rollwright, in a bluish clay, about the length of a man's finger.

There is another sort of the Belemnites found in great plenty, in the gravel pits of the suburbs of Oxford; but very few of them are hollow at the top like the former, though they are radiated like a star, from a closer center, and are always of an amber colour. This stone is somewhat transparent, but it will not draw straws. When burnt or rubbed hard, it smells like the urine of cats, it is made tapering to a point like the former, though some end more bluntly, and have a chink on both sides.

There are other stones that resemble shell-fish, some of which lie in a mass of stone together, and others are found in fields or quarries a-part. In the confines of Whichwood forest, there is a quarry of very hard stone, composed of a close union of cockles, scarce any of them exceeding a pea in bigness, but are streaked circularly to the hinges of the valves. They are none of them hollow, but are firmer within than the bed of stone

stone in which they lie, and are so closely connected with it, that the mass will take a very good polish. There is another sort upon the edge of Otmoor near Charleton, which differs from the former in having the cockles larger, and not so thick set. This, as well as the other, is a kind of marble, so curiously spotted, and set with rings, that it is very beautiful. It is used for tables, and for grinding colours upon. There is another sort in the quarries near Adderbury, in their full proportions, some of which are wonderfully crystalline and beautiful, but are so loose, that a knock will make them leap from their beds. Many of them are hollow, or filled with a brittle spar, whence the stone is of no other use than to mend the highways, or for burning into lime.

Among the stones resembling shells that are found separate, are the Strombites, which resemble a screw, and have been found about five inches long. There is also a lesser sort not above half an inch in length, but curiously streaked; both have been found in the quarries in the parish of Heddington. They are of an ash-colour, somewhat inclining to yellow, and are of a harder consistence than the stone in which they lie.

Stones representing cockles, scallops, oysters, and the like, are very common in this county. Of these the conchites, or cockle-stones, may be divided into the greater and less; the greater have large streaks and furrows, descending, as it were, from a center at the top, and expanding themselves to the rim, having also six or seven transverse lines bent circularly to the hinge. These stones are on the outside of a dark ash-colour, but within are a black flint. They are found in the Chiltern, about Henley-upon-Thames. Others have the streaks much broader than the former, and descend in undulated lines.

One

One of these was found at Great Rollwright, in a bluish clay. Another sort is met with in Heddington quarries, where the streaks are not drawn from the hinge to the rim, but transversely and circularly, from one side of the stone to the other, the lesser circles being placed next to the joint, and the greater next to the rim of the stone. This seems to resemble the wrinkled cockle of Rondeletius, with valves swelling very high. It is of an ash-colour inclining to yellow, and is a solid stone, much like rubble. There are several sorts of the smaller conchites, differing in colour, lines and valves. These are found at Teynton, and in the fields about Burford; most of them are yellow, with their valves rising high, and approaching to a round.

With respect to the stones resembling a scallop-shell, one was found in Heddington quarries, of a yellowish colour, eared on both sides, with the streaks proceeding from the joint of the stone, between which the lines were very prominent. It had also transverse lines, but they did not pass through the deep furrows; but in another scallop found in the same place, the transverse lines ran through the others, but were exceeding small. This was of a light reddish colour, and eared on both sides.

There are also in this county stones of a very odd figure, called Muscle-stones, which do not exactly resemble any shell-fish yet known, though they are more like muscles than any thing else. They are not hollow, but consist within of a yellowish stony earth, and without, of a white shining covering, with oblong lines answering the figure of the stone. There is another sort remarkably small, found in Heddington quarries.

With respect to stones representing shell-fish of the softer crustaceous kind, one of these was found in

in the Chiltern country, in substance and hardness much like a pebble, of a yellowish colour, and was divided at first by five pretty strait lines, embellished on each side with double sets of points, ascending from a protuberant center, in the basis of the stone, to another of the like form on the top, but foliated round in the manner of a rose. It was subdivided by five other indented lines, terminated before they reached the center; by which means the spaces between these lines were all pentagons. This Dr. Plot calls the porcupine stone without prickles, but Aldrovandus, the sea-urchin, deprived of its prickly coat.

Another stone resembling the sea-urchin of Imperatus, was found in the same place without prickles. It differs from the former in colour and substance, for it is a hard, black flint within, covered over with whitish glittering plates, set edgewise to the ball of the flint, out of which uniform eminences and depressures, with waved and depressed lines, are all framed. There is another echnites, or sea-urchin, resembling the inner-shell of the egg-urchin, so called from a sort of stellated eggs, contained in this kind of urchin. The outer coat of the real urchin is full of sharp prickles; upon which account, it is sometimes called a sea-chestnut, a sea-hedge-hog, and a sea-thistle; but when it is dead, the outer coat falls off, and then the inner shell is discovered, curiously wrought. Of this inner shell, the stone we are speaking of is a perfect representation, and is covered with so many compartments and eminences regularly disposed, that the most ingenious embroiderers would find it hard to imitate it. This stone was found in the parish of Teynton, where was found another of the same sort, but no bigger than a rouncival pea, and yet as finely embroidered as the former.

In this county there are also Ammon's-horns, which are supposed to be the petrefied shell of the Nautilus. Of these there are many of different sizes, shapes and colours, all so curled up within themselves, that the place of the head is always in the circumference, and the tail in the center of the stone. These have been frequently found in digging cellars and foundations in the city of Oxford. Some are small, with protuberant parts swelling to a round; and others are broader and more depressed; but the lineations of both are waved and extended from the center, to a single edged ridge on the back of the stone. In another sort, the streaks are larger, and not so thick or waved, and are terminated at great protuberances on each side of the stone. Between these on its back, are other streaks or lines, and the whole body of the stone is divided into sutures, somewhat resembling the leaves of an oak. The two latter of these are perforated at the center, and they are all three adorned with a shining brass-colour, in lustre equalling the metal itself. In the parish of Clevedon are found a species of these beautiful stones, that have more turns than those at Oxford, tho' they are not much bigger. They are of a yellowish colour, and differently streaked; in some the streaks that run from the innermost part of the stone are all single, but many of them are divided before they reach the rim, where they are terminated with a back much more protuberant than the rest of the stone, but it is streaked like the rest of the body.

Serpent stones are found in a bluish clay in the parish of Great Rollwright, to the eastward of the church. Some of these are soft, and others a hard bluish stone. They are coiled round like the former, but differ from them in the streaks, which meet at the rim, where they are united in pretty large

large protuberant knobs on each side the back of the stone. Between these two ridges there rises a third that is more prominent, just in the place, as it were of the dorsal spine. One of these was four inches over, and made up of as many turns. There was one found at Sandford near Oxford, about eleven inches over, and had single ribs only, without knobs and ridges on the back.

There are other stones in this county that represent entire plants, and others are like the fruits of trees, as those resembling pears, particularly a warden pear, found in the parish of Warterstock, which was whitish without, and yellow within. In the parish of Whitchurch was found a hard stone like an apricot.

There are also stones that resemble animals, either in the whole or in part; among which are some that seem to be petrified reptiles. In the rubble quarries, near Shotover-hill, there are two sorts of worm-stones, one of which is of a whitish yellow colour, and seems of the same texture as the rubble-stone itself. Some of them are of the size of a goose-quill, and lie in the rock in mezzo rilievo. Another sort lies in the very body of the stone, of a white colour, and regularly curled up like the spring of a watch.

We shall now take notice of the different kinds of soil, and the manner of cultivation practised in this county. With respect to the nature of the soil, it differs greatly; for in some places it is a black or reddish earth, in others clay, and in others chalk. Here are also three kinds of marle, one of which is of a whitish colour, inclining to yellow, but not very fat, and dissolves so easily, that it may be laid on the ground at any time of the year. In the parish of Cornwell, is another of a blue colour, that will readily take spots out of clothes, and is extremely proper to be laid on
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the neighbouring barren hills, about the beginning of winter. There is a light, hollow kind of marle, which dissolves in water almost as readily as fuller's earth, and is naturally so spongy, that it is fit for use at any time of the year. It is of a whitish grey when dry, intermixed with sand, and is very brittle. Besides these marles, there is a sort of greenish earth, of a fat, close texture, so well impregnated with salt, that it crackles when put into the fire, as much as salt itself. It dissolves immediately in water, on which it bestows a brackish taste.

Neither the roads, nor the husbandry, are in such perfection as might be expected in this county. The country from Thetford to Oxford is disagreeable wild and barren. The road, though it is called a turnpike, is covered with loose chalk stones, which rowl about as if intended to lame the horses, and is not only narrow, but full of holes and deep ruts; yet the tolls are very dear, and considering the badness in which the roads are kept, extremely unreasonable.

Their course of husbandry is different from that of most counties. In the neighbourhood of Whitney, they sow one year wheat, the second beans, the third barley, the fourth keep it fallow, the fifth sow barley, and the sixth clover, with variations. They set their beans with a dibble, and keep them clean by hoeing. About Hanborough, when beans are not sown, then clover is sown among the wheat in spring. They plant all their beans, and generally hoe them twice. They use both foot and wheel ploughs, all with four horses. A remarkable manner of estimating crops here is by the return, in proportion to the seed; wheat they reckon five or six bushels for one; and as they sow three bushels on an acre, it amounts of course to about two quarters, or
two

two and a half. An acre of barley produces three quarters, and one of beans three and a half. They have, in this part of the county no dairies, and they even feed their hogs in summer with beans. There are said to be no less than five sorts of wheat sown in this county, all adapted to as many kinds of soil. Oxfordshire abounds with meadows, which are not surpassed by any pastures in England. The hills of Oxfordshire, before the civil wars, were pretty well furnished with trees, but wood is now so scarce, that it is frequently sold by weight, not only at Oxford, but in the northern parts of the county. That part called Chiltern is still a woody tract, and is remarkable for great plenty of beech; but there are not many trees of other kinds. Besides the Chiltern lies so far from Oxford, and so near the river Thames, that the wood is readily conveyed to London, and is consequently of little benefit to the rest of the county, which producing no coals, fuel is very scarce.

The uncommon plants growing in this county are:

Female or blue-flowered pimpernel, *Anagallis foemina flore coeruleo*, Park. At Battle near Oxford.

Painted or gilded reed, *Arundo vallatoria foliis ex luteo variegatis*. In the river Thames not far from Oxford.

The greatest doves-foot, cranes-bill with dissected leaves, *Geranium columbinum maximum foliis dissectis*, Dr. Plot. hist. nat. Oxon. In hedges about Marston, and on that of Botley-causey next Oxford, in great plenty.

Dogs-grass with awns, *Gramen caninum aristatum, radice non repente sylvaticum*. Found plentifully in Stoken-church woods.

Wild

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Wild rye-grass of the woods, *Gramen secalinum majus sylvaticum*, Gr. *Secalinum majus*, Park. In Stoken church-woods.

Cyperus-grass with a round crow-foot-head, *Gramen cyperoides minimum, ranunculi capitulo rotundo*. Frequently found on the bogs on the west side of Oxford.

White-flowered bastard-hellebore, *Helleborine flore albo vel damasonium montanum latifolium*, C. B. In the woods near Stoken-church, not far from the way leading from Oxford to London.

Birds-nest, smelling like primrose roots, *Orobanche verbasculi odore*, Dr. Plot. At the bottoms of trees in the woods near Stoken-church.

Annual pearl-wort, *Saxifraga Anglica annua albes folio*, Dr. Plot. In the walks of Baliol-college gardens, and on the fallow fields about Heddington and Cowley, plentifully; and in many other places.

Base hore-hound, *Stachys fuchsii*, J. B. Ger. *Major Germanica*, C. B. Park. Nigh Whitney-park, plentifully.

Red lime, *Tilia foliis molliter hirsutis, viminibus rubris, fructu tetragono*. It is found in Stoken-church woods.

Creeping tormentil with deeply indented leaves, *Tormentilla reptans alata, foliis profundius serratis*. In the borders of the corn-fields between Hockley and Shotover-woods, and elsewhere.

Violet with throatworth-leaves, *Viola martia hirsuta major inodora*, Dr. Plot. *Trachelii folio*, D. Merret. In Magdalen-college-cops, Shotover-hills, Stow-wood, and many other places, plentifully.

Round leaved marsh violet, *Viola palustris rotundifolia*, Dr. Plot. In the bogs about Stow-wood, and on the banks of the Cherwell, between Oxford and Water-Eyton, but sparingly.

The

The greater periwinkle, *Clematis daphnoides* major, C. B. *Daphnoid. latifolia seu vinca pervinca* major, Park. In the highways between Wolverton and Yarnton, and in several of the hedges in that neighbourhood.

White berried elder, *Sambucus fructu albo*, Ger. Park. In the hedges near Watlington.

We now come to the divisions of the county, and here it is proper to observe, that the most southern part is distinguished by the name of the Chiltern country, from its bordering on the Chiltern-hills, which extend from Buckinghamshire into this part of Oxfordshire.

This county is divided into fourteen hundreds : it lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of York, and contains two hundred and eighty parishes, one city, and twelve market towns; namely, the city of Oxford, Bampton, Burford, Banbury, Bicester, Deddington, Chipping-Norton, Ilsep, Thame, Henley upon Thames, Woodstock, Whitney, and Watlington; and sends nine members to parliament, viz. two knights of the shire for the county, two citizens for Oxford, two representatives for that university, two burgesses for the borough of Woodstock, and one for Banbury.

We shall enter this county by the road which leads from Reading to Oxford, where the first village we meet is CAVERSHAM, which is seated on the borders of Berkshire, and in the most southern part of Oxfordshire, little more than a mile to the north of Reading. This village is only remarkable for having had a small priory, which was a cell to the monastery at Nottely in Buckinghamshire.

From Caversham a road extends about six miles north by east to HENLEY UPON THAMES, which
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is thus called from its situation upon that river, to distinguish it from several other towns in England of the name of Henley. It is situated thirty-six miles north-west of London, and twenty south-east of Oxford, on the London road to that city, and on the edge of the county. It is a town of great antiquity, anciently called Hanneburg, and is at present a large town, governed by a warden, burgeses, and other officers. The houses are generally well built, and here are two free-schools; one a grammar-school, founded and endowed by king James the First, and the other called the Blue-coat school, founded by the lady Elizabeth Periam, for teaching and clothing several poor children, and putting them out apprentices. Here is also an alms-house, founded by Dr. Longland, bishop of Lincoln, and a wooden bridge over the Thames that leads into Buckinghamshire. The principal part of the inhabitants are meal-men, malsters, and barge-men, who enrich themselves by sending corn, malt, and wood to London. It has a market on Thursdays, which is so considerable, that three hundred cart loads of malt and corn are sometimes sold in it on one market-day; and it has four fairs, held on the 7th of March, chiefly for horses; on Holy-Thursday for sheep only; on Thursday after Trinity-Sunday, for horses and sheep; and on Thursday se'n-night before October 10, for cheese and horses.

Near Henley upon Thames is the village of BOWNEY, where was dug up, in the year 1751, the lid of a stone coffin, round which was an inscription that was plain and legible; except in a few places, which were defaced by the workman's pick-axe. The coffin was also adorned with carved work, executed in a rude manner, but it does not appear that the inscription was then understood, or has been since explained, though several exact draw-

ings have been taken, both of that and this lid. Within the coffin was a skeleton of a small size, almost entire; but upon lightly touching any part, it instantly crumbled into dust.

About ten miles to the north by west of Henley is WATLINGTON, which is thought by some to owe its name to the manner of the ancient Britons building their houses with wattles, or wicker-work. There was formerly a castle here, of which there are no traces, except an eminence and a moat, now converted into a fish-pond, near the east end of the church. Thomas Thorner, Esq; about the year 1666, built here a pretty market-house, and founded a free grammar-school. The town has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on Lady-day, chiefly for pleasure, and on October 10, for hogs and cattle.

A little to the north of this town is SHERBORN, where the earl of Macclesfield has a castle, which is his family seat; and in this structure is an observatory for making astronomical observations.

About three miles north of Sherborn is ADWELL, a village, where was anciently a fortification that had intrenchments about it, which Dr. Plot supposes, were made about the year 1010, when the Danes landed in January, and passing through Chiltern-woods, went to Oxford, and having burnt that city, erected this fortification. Some others are, however, of opinion, that what that gentleman supposes to be a fortification, was a barrow.

Two miles south-west of Watlington is EWELME, a village, in which was the seat of William de la Pole, who built here a neat church, and with Alice his wife, founded a house of alms, called God's house, for two priests, and thirteen poor men, in the reign of king Henry the Sixth.

The

The first priest to be master of the house, to preach and say mass, and the second to teach grammar to all the children of the lordship of Ewelme. For the support of this hospital or alms-house, they gave three manors, with all their appurtenances, out of which the two priests were to receive 10 l. a year each, the chief of the poor men, who was called the master, and whose duty was to complain of the rest when they behaved amiss, and to ring the bell for the common service, was to have 3 l. 9 s. 4 d. a year, and the rest of the poor men were to receive weekly 14 d. These salaries, trifling as they appear, were then very considerable; the lord chancellor and lord treasurer of England for the time being were appointed protectors. This foundation is still in being as an alms-house and free-school; but notwithstanding the three manors are said to produce 3000 l. per annum, the school is said to have been lately shut up, and no boys taught, though in the late teacher's time many gentlemen of the country were educated there.

Some time ago a waggon passing over Ewelme common happened to break up the ground near the ancient Roman highway, called Ikening-street, by which means was discovered a large Roman urn containing a number of copper coins, some of which were as old as the arrival of the Romans in the time of Julius Caesar.

BENSINGTON, or BENSON, a village seated on the river Thames, three miles south-west of Watlington, is extremely ancient, and is called a royal vill by an old author, who relates, that it was taken from the Britons by Ceaulin, in the year 572, and was possessed by the West-Saxons for two hundred years after. But this may be doubted; for, as it lay on the frontiers of the West-Saxon and Mercian kingdoms, it is probable that it frequently changed its masters. At

present it is a small village, and at a little distance from it are the remains of a royal palace, which was formerly a beautiful structure, but it is fallen to decay on account of its unhealthy situation. The Roman road passes the river at this place, running toward Sylchester, and may be seen west of the church.

Five miles north-west of Watlington is STOKEN-CHURCH, a village on the road from London to Oxford, which has two fairs, held on the 10th of July, for horses, and on the 29th of September, for hiring servants.

Six miles north of Sherborn is TAME, or THAME, which is situated on the east side of the county, twelve miles east of Oxford, and takes its name from the river Tame, which rising in Buckinghamshire, passes by this town, which is pleasantly seated, the Tame washing the north part of the town, and two small brooks the east and west. It seems to have been of some note in the time of the Saxons, for in the reign of Edward the Elder, in the year 921, the Danes coming hither erected a fortification, and king Edward marching against it the same year, is said to have besieged the borough of Tame, and to have taken it with the slaughter of the Danish king, and all that opposed him in the town. Afterwards, in the year 1010, when the Danes over-run almost all parts of England, Tame suffered greatly. In the year 1137, Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, gave his park near this town to the Cistercian monks, belonging to the abbey of Ottely, who built a monastery in it, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed, at the dissolution of religious houses, with a yearly revenue of 256 l. 13 s. 7 d. About the end of the reign of king Henry the Sixth, or king Edward the Fourth, Richard Quartermain founded and endowed an hospital

hospital in this town, near the church. Henry Lexington, bishop of Lincoln, in the reign of Henry the Third, bringing the great road, which before lay at some distance, through the middle of the town, it continued in a flourishing condition, but is now only an indifferent place, chiefly consisting of one great street, in the midst of which is a spacious market-place. Here is a fine church, and a free-school, the master of which is nominated by the warden and scholars of New-college, Oxford, and it has an alms-house for five poor men, and a woman. It has a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, held on Easter-Tuesday, for all sorts of cattle; and on October 10, for horses, fat hogs, and for hiring servants.

Sir John Holt, an eminent lawyer, and lord-chief-justice of the King's-Bench, was the eldest son of Sir Thomas Holt, serjeant at law; and was born December the 30th, 1642, at Thame. He received his education at Abingdon-school, and at Oriel-college, Oxford, whence he removed to Gray's-Inn, London; and applying himself there to the study of the law, he became, in the space of a few years, a most distinguished barrister. In 1685 he was made recorder of London; but from this place, which he held by patent from the crown, he was the next year dismissed by king James the Second. Being chosen a member of the convention-parliament in 1688, he acted as one of the managers for the Commons, at the conferences with the Lords, concerning the abdication of the king, and the vacancy of the throne. His behaviour, no doubt, on this occasion, contributed considerably towards his advancement; for, in 1689, he was appointed lord-chief-justice of the court of King's-Bench; and this important office he discharged, for the space of twenty-one years, with equal honour to himself, and ad-

vantage to the public. Zealous, as he was, in the cause of liberty, and possessed, at the same time, of the most undaunted courage, he was not afraid of incurring the indignation of the two houses of parliament; by asserting the freedom of the subject, and depriving them, as far as his decisions could do it, of the dangerous power of arbitrary imprisonment. In 1708 he published *The Reports of the lord-chief-justice Keyling*, with some notes of his own. He died on the 5th of March, 1709, and was interred in the church of Redgrave in Suffolk.

About five miles to the west of Watlington is the village of DORCHESTER, which was called by the ancient Britons *Caer-Dauri*, or *Caer-Doren*, from the word *Dower*, which, in the British language, signifies water. This place is thought by some to have been a Roman station, many of their coins and medals having been frequently found in the village and its neighbourhood. To the south-westward of the town are two banks, with a trench between them, called *Dyke-hills*, which Dr. Plot supposes to have been a fortification. Upon the conversion of the Saxons to the Christian faith, Kenegils, king of the West-Saxons, gave Dorchester to St. Birine, the apostle of these parts, for the place of his residence; and about the year 635, St. Birine built a church here, and made this the seat of his bishopric, which then comprized the two large kingdoms of the West-Saxons and Mercians. It continued a bishop's see for above four hundred years, till bishop Romigius translated the episcopal seat to the city of Lincoln, in the reign of William the Conqueror, about the year 1086. After this removal the town began to decay, in so much, that as William of Malmesbury tells us, it became a small and unfrequented place, tho' it was remarkable

remarkable for the stateliness of its churches. However, here was an abbey of Black canons built by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, about the year 1140, dedicated to St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Birine, which at the dissolution was valued at 219l. 12s. per annum. In later times the road thro' this town from London to Oxford, being turned another way, also contributed to render the town neglected, but now passengers begin to travel that way again. A little below, to the south of the town, the river Tame falls into the Thames, or, as it is called at Oxford, the Isis; from which union many have supposed the name of Thames is derived. Dorchester has no market, and only one fair, which is held on Easter-Tuesday, for pleasure.

Two miles south-west of Dorchester is GORING, a village which had a small priory of Augustine nuns, in the time of king Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, but who was its founder is uncertain. It was valued at the suppression at 60l. 6s. 5d. a year.

From Dorchester a road extends ten miles north-west to the city of OXFORD, which is situated sixty-eight miles north by east of Bristol, eighty west-south-west of Cambridge, eighty-one north by west of Chichester, fifty south of Coventry, fifty-seven north-east of Salisbury, and fifty-five west-north-west of London. There have been great disputes concerning its antiquity. The fabulous history of Oxford placing its origin a thousand years before the time of our Saviour, and ascribing its foundation to Memprick, king of the Britons, from whom it is said to have been called Caer-Memprick, or the city of Memprick, a name said to have been afterwards changed to Caer-Bossa, the city of Bossa, and again to Rhid-Ychen, a name of the same meaning with Oxen-ford, the

Saxon appellation, from which its present name is supposed to be derived. This city is also said to have been called at different times Bellofitum and Beaumont, in allusion to the beauty of its situation: we are also told, that it being destroyed by the Saxons in their first attempt upon this country, Vortigern, the British king, restored it to its former grandeur, whence it was called Caer-Vortigern.

It however appears to have been a place of no great consideration, till king Alfred refounded an university here in the year 886. That wise prince is generally considered as the founder of the university, though he was only the restorer of learning at this place. At his accession all kinds of literature had suffered so much by the wars with which England had been laid waste, that very few could read English, and scarce a single priest in the kingdom understood Latin. To remove this inconvenience, he ordered pope Gregory the First's pastoral, containing the duty of pastors, to be translated into English, and having sent a copy of it to every bishop in his dominions, assembled several men of literature, among whom were Grymbald, and John the monk, who were distinguished for their piety and learning, whom he settled at Oxford in the year 886. That city having been before a seminary of learning, Grymbald, and the learned men who accompanied him hither, were opposed by the old scholars, on their prescribing new statutes, institutes and institutions to the students, who upon this pleaded that letters had long flourished there, and that there being then but few students, was owing to their having been expelled in great numbers, by the tyranny of pagans and infidels. They likewise maintained that they were ready to prove, by the testimony of their annals, that good rules and orders had
long

long subsisted for the government of the place : rules prescribed by Gildas, Melkin, Nennius Kentigern, and other persons of great learning and piety, who had prosecuted their studies at that seat of learning, and formed and improved the constitution of its university.

During Grymbald's stay at Oxford, he and St. Neot were regents and readers of divinity ; Asfer, a monk of extraordinary parts and knowledge, taught grammar and rhetoric. John, a monk and colleague of Grymbald, taught geometry and astronomy ; and John, a monk of St. David's, logic, music and arithmetic. The above animosities had subsisted during three years, when they were carried on with such violence, that upon Grymbald's complaint to the king, he came in person to Oxford, where he was at great pains in hearing both parties, and endeavouring to accommodate their differences : at length, having exhorted them to live in friendship, he left them, in hopes that they would comply ; but the students continuing their opposition, Grymbald retired to the monastery at Winchester, which had been lately founded by Alfred.

That excellent prince is said to have built three halls, all subject to one head, called by the names of Great University-hall, Little University-hall, and Less University-hall, in which he placed twenty-six students in divinity, to whom he gave annual stipends. Others are, however, of opinion, that Alfred founded only one hall under a three-fold distinction, from the sciences taught in it. Such is, however, the foundation of what is now called University-college, which is allowed to be the most ancient in Oxford. Yet some have maintained that this college had scholars long before the reign of king Alfred, and that St. John de Beverley, who died in the year 721, received

his education there, and they suppose that Alfred only built the house, to which he gave the name of Great University-hall, and provided the students with exhibitions.

In the reign of king Ethelred, the city, together with this college, were sacked and burnt by the Danes, in the year 1002, and they were scarcely rebuilt when king Harold, in 1036, being highly incensed against this place, for the murder of some of his friends in a tumult, banished the scholars; but by an edict of Edward the Confessor, the scholars were restored to their ancient habitations and pensions.

William the Conqueror, being desirous of abolishing the English tongue, and unwilling to have the doctrines of the church any longer preached in it, was warmly opposed by the clergy and scholars; on which he stopped the stipends granted them by king Alfred, and reduced them to live on charitable contributions. The inhabitants then joining in a rebellion, William besieged the city, took it, and gave it up to be plundered, in revenge for some affront one of the inhabitants offered him from the walls. That prince is also supposed to have surrounded the city with new walls, of which the North-gate, and some scattered fragments are still remaining.

In the reign of king John, the magistrates of Oxford, having, without trial, hanged up three priests or scholars belonging to the University, for a murder, of which they were supposed to be innocent, the students retired from Oxford to Reading, Salisbury, Maidstone, Cambridge, and other places; by which means the town became so impoverished, that it sent deputies to the pope's legate at Westminster, who begged pardon upon their knees, and submitted to do public penance;

nance; upon which the scholars, after four or five years absence, returned.

At what time Oxford was first dignified with the title of an University, is uncertain; but in the year 1256, in an address from the university to the king, it is expressly called an University, and the second school of the church, after the university of Paris: and before this time, the popes in their decretals, allowed the title of an University to none but those of Paris, Oxford, Bononia, and Salamanca.

About the year 1318, we find the Hebrew tongue began to be studied in this university, where it was taught by a Jewish convert, towards whose salary every clerk in Oxford contributed one penny out of every mark of his ecclesiastical revenue.

This may be sufficient for the history of Oxford in general; but as the more particular history of this city consists in that of its several colleges, we shall give it when we come to treat of them, and to prevent a repetition, shall add the present situation of each.

Oxford is situated on the bank of the Thames, or, as it is here called, the Isis, near its confluence with several rivers, in a beautiful plain and sweet air. The prospect of the city from Shotover-hill is very agreeable. It is one of the largest cities in England, including the buildings of the university, which compose above two-thirds of it. The private buildings are, in general, neat, and the public ones magnificent; the streets are spacious, clean, and regular. The cathedral belonging to Christ-Church-college, will be taken notice of in describing the colleges of the university; and besides this there are fourteen parish churches, some of which are noble structures. These are, St. Mary's, All Saints, St. Martin's, or Carfax, St.

Aldate's, or St. Tole's, St. Ebb's, St. Peter's in the Bailey, St. Michael's, St. Mary Magdalen's, St. Peter's in the East, St. Giles's, Holiwell's, St. Thomas's, St. Clement's, and St. John's.

Only four of these churches are worthy of observation, which are St. Mary's, All Saints, St. Peter's in the East, and St. John's. St. Mary's church, in which the university hear divine service performed on Sundays and holidays, has a noble and beautiful tower, a hundred and eighty feet high, richly adorned with Gothic workmanship, and contains six remarkably large bells, by which notice is given to the university for scholastic exercises, convocations, and congregations. The church consists of three isles, with a spacious choir: the pulpit is placed in the center of the middle-isle: at the west end of it stands the vice-chancellor's throne, and beneath it are the thrones of the two proctors: there are seats which descend on each side, appointed for the doctors and heads of houses; and beneath these are seats for the young nobility. The area of the church consists of benches for the masters of arts, and on the west end, with a return to the north and south, are galleries for the under graduates and batchelors of arts.

All Saint's church is an elegant modern structure, much in the style of several of the new churches in London. It is seventy-two feet long, forty-two broad, and fifty high. It has a beautiful steeple in the modern taste, is ornamented both within and without with Corinthian pilasters, and finished with an attic story and balustrade.

The church of St Peter in the East was built between eight and nine hundred years ago, by St. Grymbald, and is said to be the first church built with stone in this part of England. It was formerly

merly the university church, and is a curious piece of antiquity.

St. John's church is also the chapel of Merton college, and will be taken notice of in describing the buildings of that college.

Here is a town-hall, where the assizes for the county, and the city and county sessions are held. This is a neat structure, lately erected at the expence of Thomas Rowney, Esq; The city has also five or six charity-schools, in which above three hundred children are taught and cloathed; one for forty boys was founded by the university, and another for thirty boys and girls founded by the city. Here is a stone bridge over the Charwell, which consists of twenty arches, and is six hundred feet long, and there are two stone bridges over the Thames, which is navigable by barges to the city, the chief trade of which consists in sending malt in barges to London.

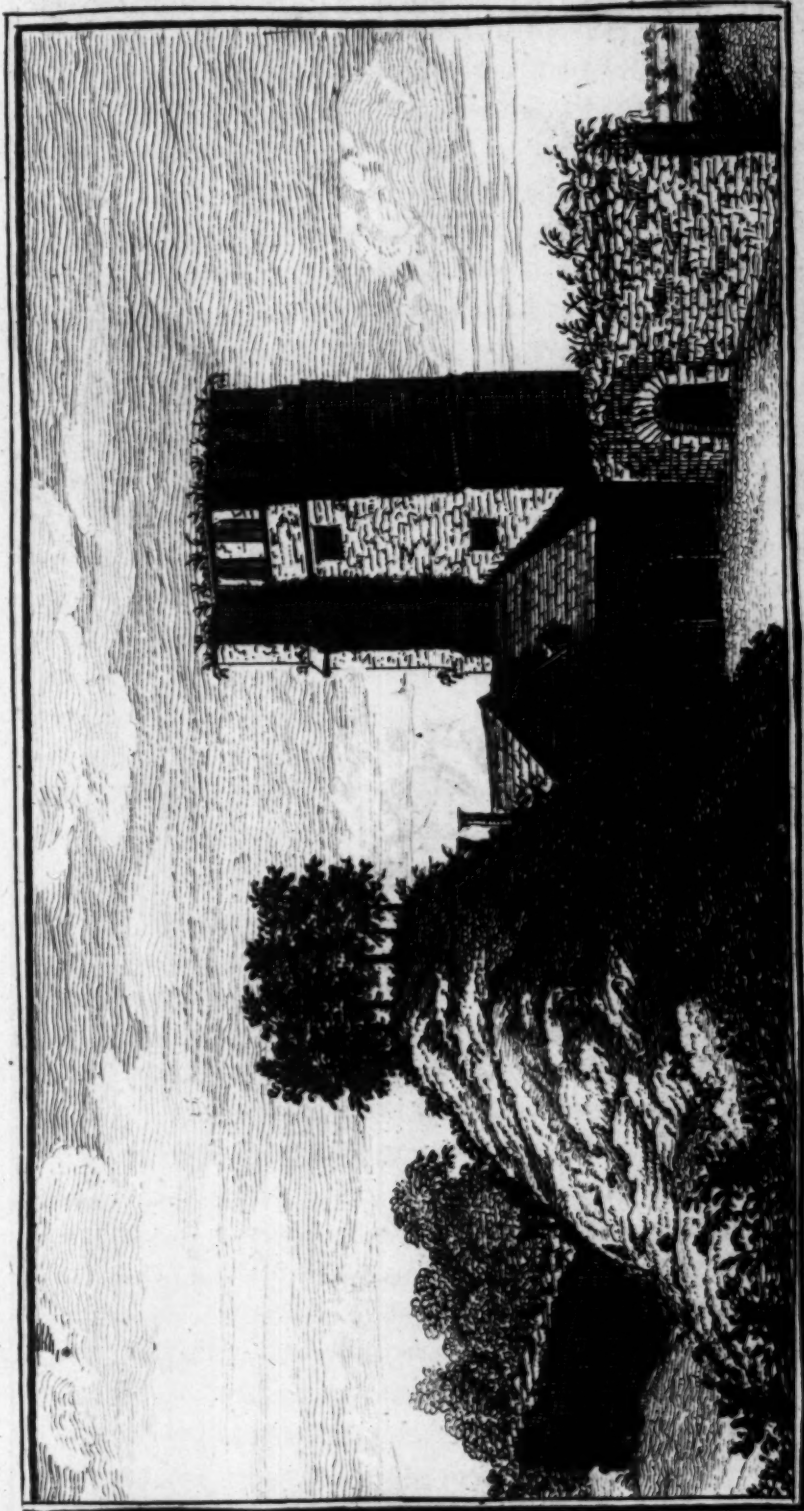
The city is governed by a mayor, a high steward and recorder, four aldermen, eight assistants, two bailiffs, a town clerk, two chamberlains, all who have served the office of bailiff and chamberlain, and twenty-four common council-men. The mayor for the time being officiates at the coronation of our kings in the buttery, and has a large gilt bowl and cover for his fee. The magistracy of the city is subject to the chancellor and vice-chancellor of the university, in all affairs of moment, even in those relating to the city; and every year the vice-chancellor administers an oath to the magistrates and sheriffs, that they will maintain the privileges of the university: besides, on the 10th of February, the mayor and sixty-two of the chief citizens, in a solemn manner, pay each one penny at St. Mary's church, in lieu of a great fine laid upon the city, in the reign of
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king Edward the Third, when sixty-two of the students were murdered by the citizens.

This city had a castle, which appears by its ruins to have been of great strength and extent, and of these we have given an engraved view. A part of the building now standing is used for the county jail. This structure was founded by Robert D'Oily, who came over with William the Conqueror. Within the castle was a collegiate church for secular canons, founded and endowed in 1074, by Robert D'Oily and Roger Iveri; but this church with all its revenues, was, in 1149, annexed to a house of regular canons at Osene near this city, and the buildings were afterwards occupied by students. An ancient manuscript also mentions a monastery here dedicated to St. Aldatus before the year 1122. The present chapel was raised by contributions for the use of the prisoners. In the castle-yard are some remains of the ancient town-hall, where, in the year 1577, the Black assizes were held, when the lieutenant of the county, two knights, eighty esquires and justices of the peace, besides almost all the gentlemen of the grand jury, died soon after, which was occasioned by an infection brought into the court by the prisoners. Above a hundred scholars, besides townsmen, were seized with so strange a distemper, that they ran about the streets like mad-men, and beat their governors. This disorder, however, lasted but one month.

The city of Oxford gives the title of earl to the noble family of Harley. It has a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and three fairs, held on the 3d of May, the Monday after the first of September, and the Thursday before Michaelmas, for toys and small ware.

The university of Oxford is one of the noblest in the world, with respect to the opulency of its endow-



The North View of Oxford Castle.



endowments, the magnificence of its buildings, and the convenience of its mansions for study. It consists of twenty colleges and five halls, and is a corporation governed by a chancellor, a high-steward, a vice-chancellor, two proctors, a public orator, a keeper of the archives, a register, three esquire beadles carrying silver maces wrought and gilt, three yeoman beadles, with plain silver maces, and a verger with a silver rod. The chancellor is usually one of the nobility, and is the supreme governor of the university. He is chosen by the students in convocation, and continues in his office for life. The high steward is nominated by the chancellor, but must be approved by the university. His office, which also continues for life, is to assist the chancellor in the government of the university, and to hear and determine capital causes, according to the laws of the land, and the privileges of the university. The vice-chancellor, who is always in orders, and the head of some college, is likewise appointed by the chancellor, and approved by the university. As he is the chancellor's deputy, he governs the university according to its statutes, and chooses four pro-vice-chancellors out of the heads of colleges, to officiate in his absence. The two proctors are masters of arts, chosen annually in turn, out of the several colleges and halls; and their business is to keep the peace, to punish disorders, inspect weights and measures, appoint scholastic exercises, and the taking of degrees. The public orator writes letters in the name of the university, and harangues princes and other great personages who visit it. The keeper of the archives has the custody of the charters and records. And the register records all the public transactions of the university in convocation.

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The officers, fellows, and scholars, maintained by the revenues of the university, amount to about a thousand, and the number of such scholars as live at their own expence, is usually about two thousand, the whole amounting to three thousand persons; besides a great number of inferior officers and servants belonging to the several colleges and halls, which have each their statutes and rules of government, under their respective heads, fellows and tutors.

In this university are annually held four terms for public exercises, lectures, and disputations; and set days and hours when the professors of every faculty read their lectures; and in some of the colleges are public lectures, to which all persons are admitted.

Each college has its own particular library and chapel, and most of them are adorned with cloysters, quadrangles, piazzas, statues, gardens, and groves. The names of the colleges are, University college, Baliol college, Merton college, Exeter college, Oriel college, Queen's college, New college, Lincoln college, All-Souls college, Magdalen college, Brazen-nose college, Corpus Christi college, Christ-Church college, Trinity college, St. John Baptist college, Jesus college, Wadham college, Pembroke college, Worcester college, and Hartford college.

I. University-college already mentioned, is seated near the east gate of the city, and is so very ancient, that there is no account of its original foundation, or how long it had subsisted before it was refounded by Alfred. The present structure, which is spacious, superb and uniform, was begun in 1634, at the expence of Charles Greenwood, formerly a fellow here, carried on by Sir Simon Bennet, and compleated by Dr. John Radcliff. The magnificent north front of this college

lege is extended two hundred and sixty feet along the south side of High-street, and has two stately portals, with a tower over each ; the western portal leads to a handsome Gothic quadrangle a hundred feet square : on the south side of the eastern quadrangle, are the chapel and hall. There is also a third court of three sides, each of which extends about eighty feet. This college has a master, twelve fellows, seventeen scholars, and about ninety other students.

II. Baliol-college, the next in antiquity, is of a much more modern date ; for though, in the year 1231, the students of this university appear to have amounted to thirty thousand English, Scots, French, and Irish, yet there was but one hall or college, till after the year 1260, when the foundation of this college was projected by Sir John Baliol, of Bernard castle in Yorkshire, the father of John Baliol, king of Scotland, who settled some annual exhibitions on certain poor scholars, till he could provide a house and other accommodations for them ; but he dying in 1269, Devergilla, his widow, in compliance with his desire, hired of the university a house in a street now called Canditch, in which she placed her exhibitioners, consisting of a principal and sixteen fellows, and prescribed statutes for their government. Afterwards, in 1284, she purchased a structure, called St. Mary's hall, which having rebuilt, she removed the society to it, and gave it the name of Baliol college. This is an old Gothic structure, in which are at present maintained a master, twelve fellows, and eighteen exhibitioners, the whole number of the society amounting to about ninety. It has one large ancient quadrangle, on the north side of which is the chapel and the library, which is furnished with a very noble

noble collection of books, Sir Thomas Wendy gave his library to it, which was valued at 1500 l.

III. Merton-college is situated on the south side of the city. Walter de Merton, lord high chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Third, and afterwards bishop of Rochester, founded and endowed a college of twenty poor scholars and two or three chaplains, at Malden in Surry, in the year 1261; but the liberal arts being only taught in the universities, and he not being willing that his students should be ignorant of them, he translated this society to a building erected for them in St. John's street, Oxford, in the year 1267, prescribed a body of statutes for them in 1274, and gave the college the name of Domus Sholarium de Merton. This college at present consists of two square courts, of which the inner one is a neat and uniform building, and has a well furnished library and a fine garden. The chapel of this college, which is also the parish church of St. John, is a magnificent edifice, with a tower, in which are six bells. It is an august, Gothic edifice, and its choir is the longest of any in the university, that of New college excepted. There is something elegant in the painted glass of the east window, which is the work of a modern hand. Near the altar are the monuments of Sir Thomas Bodley and Sir Henry Saville. On the right hand of the chapel door is that of the late warden Dr. Wynthle and his sister, which is prettily executed; and near the north door of the ante-chapel is a bust and inscription to the memory of Anthony Wood. This church was erected in the year 1424. The college maintains a warden, twenty-four fellows, fourteen post-masters, four scholars, two chaplains, and two clerks; the number of members in the whole amount to about one hundred.

IV. Exeter-college is seated on the north part of the town, on the west side of the schools. In 1314 Walter Stapledon, bishop of Exeter, bought two buildings, called Hart-hall, and Arthur's-hall, in the city of Oxford, in which he instituted a society, consisting of a rector, and twelve scholars, by the name of the society of Stapledon-hall; but afterwards, not liking the situation, he purchased a piece of ground in the city, and having erected a new structure, translated the society to it, on which it was at first called Stapledon-Inn, but afterwards it obtained the name of Exeter-college, from Edmund Stafford, bishop of Exeter, who was a benefactor to it. It consists of one large and handsome quadrangle. In the center of the front, which is two hundred and twenty feet in length, is a beautiful gate of rustic work, with a handsome tower. This college maintains a rector, twenty-five fellows, a bible-clerk, and two exhibitioners. The students of every sort amount to about fifty.

V. Oriel-college, which is situated at the south side of the town, was at first called St. Mary's-college, and King's-college. Several learned antiquaries ascribe its foundation to king Edward the Second, in 1324; but it appears, that he contributed little more to it than granting a licence to Adam le Brome, his almoner, to build and endow a college here by the name of St. Mary's-hall. To this society king Edward the Third, in the first year of his reign, gave a large building in Oxford, called l'Oriel, to which the fellows removed from St. Mary's-hall, and this obtained the name of Oriel-college. It at present consists of one uniform quadrangle, in which there is nothing very remarkable. The members belonging to this college are a provost, eighteen fellows, and fourteen

fourteen exhibitioners, with about ninety students.

VI. Queen's-college is seated opposite to University-college, on the north side of High-street. In the year 1340 Robert Eglesfield, a bachelor of divinity in this university, at the desire of queen Philippa, consort of king Edward the Third, purchased several houses in the city, which he converted into a collegiate hall, by the name of Queen's college; and having in the same year obtained a royal charter of confirmation, he endowed this hall for a provost and twelve fellows, in allusion to Christ, and his twelve apostles. He also intended to endow it with revenues for the support of seventy poor scholars, in allusion to our Saviour's seventy disciples; but this part of his design was never executed. As the founder was a native of Cumberland, the fellows were to be chosen out of Cumberland and Westmoreland, in preference to any other county. After the founder's death, king Edward the Third gave two tenements to this college, which he settled on the society, by the name of Queen's-college, or hall, in remembrance of Philippa his queen, who was a great benefactress to it. This beautiful college has been rebuilt, and is one entire piece of well executed modern architecture: the front, which is formed in the style of the palace of Luxembourg, is at once magnificent and elegant: in the middle of it is a superb cupola, under which is a statue of the late queen Caroline. The whole area, on which this fine structure stands, is an oblong square, three hundred feet in length, and two hundred and twenty in breadth; and the area being divided by the hall and chapel, is formed into two courts: the first or south court is a hundred and forty feet in length, and a hundred and thirty in breadth, surrounded by a beautiful cloyster, except

cept on the north side, which is formed by the chapel and hall, and finely finished in the Doric order: in the center, over a portico, leading to the north court, stands a handsome cupola, supported by eight Ionic columns. The north court is a hundred and thirty feet long, and ninety broad, having at the west end the library, an elegant edifice of the Corinthian order. This college consists of a provost, twenty-two fellows, two chaplains, eight taberders, twenty-two scholars, two clerks, and forty exhibitioners; but the number of students of every sort amount to above one hundred and twenty.

About the time this college was founded, the students in this university separated themselves into two factions, distinguished by the names of the Northern and Southern-men; when, after being guilty of many acts of violence, the northernmen retired to Stamford in Lincolnshire, and began to prosecute their studies in some halls or colleges, which had been erected there, when that town had an university; but in a few years after they returned to Oxford, laws being enacted prohibiting the profession of the liberal arts and sciences at Stamford, to the prejudice of the university of Oxford.

VII. New-college was founded by William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, who having erected and endowed a college at that city, for teaching grammar learning to a certain number of boys, formed a design, about the year 1369, of building a college in Oxford, to which they might be removed, and pass through a regular course of academical studies: he therefore obtained a licence of king Richard the Second, in the year 1379, for carrying his design into execution, and laid himself the first stone of a magnificent structure, which being finished in 1386, he called it
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New-college; and in that year the warden and fellows were admitted with great solemnity. It is observable that the statutes, habits, customs, and privileges of this college, are different from those of any other in the university. This structure is seated to the eastward of the schools, and is separated from Queen's-college, by a narrow lane on the south. The first court is a hundred and sixty-eight feet in length, having in the center a statue of Minerva. The north side, which consists of the hall and chapel, is a venerable specimen of Gothic magnificence. The two upper stories of the east side form the library, and on the west are the lodgings of the warden. The above chapel, with respect to beauty and grandeur, exceeds all other structures of the same kind in the university. Contiguous to it on the north is a large and lofty tower, with ten bells; and near it is a cloyster, a hundred and forty-six feet in length on two sides, and on the other two a hundred and five. From the first quadrangle a passage leads into another, called Garden-court, the beautiful area of which, by means of a succession of retiring wings, displays itself gradually in approaching the garden, from which it is separated by an iron pallisade, one hundred and thirty feet in length. The members of this college are a warden, seventy fellows, ten chaplains, three clerks, sixteen choristers, and one sexton, together with many gentlemen commoners.

VIII. Lincoln-college was founded by Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln, in 1427, the sixth year of Henry the Sixth, when he began a college here for one rector, seven fellows, and two chaplains, which he designed as a seminary of divines, who might confute the doctrines of Wickliff; but he dying before this design was completed, Thomas Rotheram, bishop of Lincoln,
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in the year 1475, finished the building of the college, and encreased its revenues; he also gave it a body of statutes, and the name of Lincoln-college. It is seated in the middle of the city, and consists of two quadrangular courts, but there is nothing remarkable in the building, which is not very regular: however, the chapel, which was built by archbishop Williams, is a handsome structure, and the windows are curiously painted. This college maintains a rector, twelve fellows, twelve exhibitioners, eight scholars, and a bible-clerk, besides the independant members.

IX. All Soul's-college was founded in the year 1437, by Henry Chichley, archbishop of Canterbury, and he endowed it for a warden and forty fellows, chiefly with the lands of the alien priories, dissolved in the reign of Henry the Fifth. In 1438 he procured a charter for incorporating this society, which he termed Collegium Animarum omnium defunctorum de Oxon. And hither he soon after sent a body of statutes, in which he directed the election of the fellows to be annually on All Soul's day. It is seated in High-street, to the westward of Queen's-college; and all the buildings, except the cloysters, on the east side of the quadrangle, were erected during the life of the founder. It consists of two courts, the first of which is encompassed with Gothic edifices, and is a hundred and twenty-four feet in length, and seventy-two in breadth: the chapel on the north side is a stately pile, and the hall, which forms one side of an area to the east, is an elegant modern room, adorned with many busts and portraits. Adjoining to the hall is the buttery, which is a well-proportioned room, of an oval figure, with an arched stone roof ornamented with curious workmanship. The second court is a magnificent Gothic quadrangle, a hundred and seventy two feet
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in length, and a hundred and fifty-five in breadth; on the west is a cloyster, with a grand portico; on the south are the chapel and hall; on the east are two Gothic towers in the center of a range of fine apartments; and on the north a library, which is said to exceed every thing of the kind in the university. It was founded by colonel Codrington, at the expence of 10,000 l. 6000 l. of which he ordered to be laid out in building a library, and the other 4000 l. in furnishing it with books, to be added to his own library, which he also bequeathed to this college. This library is two hundred feet in length, thirty-two in breadth, and forty in height, and is a fine Gothic structure, thus built in conformity to the chapel, and has eleven large windows to the south, with a window of seventeen feet wide at each end. This college maintains a warden, forty fellows, two chaplains, three clerks, and six choristers. No independant students are admitted.

X. Magdalen-college was founded in 1458, by William Patten, also called Wainfleet, bishop of Winchester, on the spot where an hospital, dedicated to St. John, had formerly stood. That bishop endowed it with several lands, among which were those belonging to the hospital, for the support of a president, and fifty graduate scholars, whom he directed to be augmented or reduced, as the revenues encreased or diminished. This college is remarkable for its most beautiful situation, it having a delightful prospect, pleasant groves, and shady walks; and is esteemed one of the noblest foundations in the world. It is seated without the east gate of the city, on the bank of the river Cherwel: a Doric portal, decorated with the statue of the founder, leads to the west front, which is a striking specimen of the Gothic manner. The first court is a venerable
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old quadrangle, encompassed by a cloyster, on the south side of it are the chapel, the windows of which are finely painted, and the hall a stately Gothic room, adorned with fine pictures. From this court a narrow passage on the north leads to a beautiful opening, one side of which is bounded by a noble and elegant edifice, three hundred feet in length, in the modern taste, consisting of three stories; two other sides are to be added. This college has a president, forty fellows, thirty demies, a divinity lecturer, a school-master, an usher, four chaplains, an organist, eight clerks, and sixteen choristers; and the whole number of students amount to about one hundred and twenty.

XI. Brazen-nose college was founded in the year 1511, in the third year of Henry the Eighth, by William Smith, bishop of Lincoln, and chancellor of the university, and Richard Sutton, of Prestbury near Macclesfield, for a principal and sixty scholars. They gave it the name of Brazen-nose college, from its being built on the site of an ancient hall of the same name, distinguished by a large brass nose upon the gate. This college consists of two handsome quadrangles, in the lesser of which are the chapel and library, under which is a cloyster, but the buildings have nothing remarkable. This college maintains a principal, twenty fellows, thirty-two scholars, and four exhibitioners, besides forty or fifty students.

XII. Corpus-Christi college was founded in the year 1513, by Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, for a warden, certain monks, and secular canons, designing it as a seminary to the priory of St. Swithin in Winchester; but three years after, he conveyed it to the use of secular students, like the other colleges of the university, and enlarging the buildings, endowed it for a president, twenty fellows, two chaplains, two clerks, two choristers,

and three lecturers in philosophy and divinity, giving it the name of Corpus-Christi college. It is a Gothic building, consisting of two courts. The structure of the first court is ancient, but on the inside very regular. The handsomest part of the college is the row of lodgings, erected some years ago by their late president Dr. Thomas Turner. It has now a president, twenty fellows, two chaplains, twenty scholars, two clerks, two choristers, and six gentlemen commoners.

XIII. Christ-church college was founded by Cardinal Wolsey, who, in the year 1525, obtained two bulls of pope Clement the Seventh, for dissolving above forty monasteries, and applying their estates towards building and endowing two colleges, one at Ipswich in Suffolk, the place of the cardinal's birth, and another at Oxford. He also procured from Henry the Eighth a charter, empowering him to build and endow a college, by the name of Cardinal-college, on the site of a priory, dedicated to Frideswide, one of the religious houses just dissolved, and to settle in it a dean, secular canons, and other gownsmen, for the study of the liberal arts and sciences; and towards their maintenance, to purchase an estate of 2000 l. a year, and convey it to the society. The cardinal no sooner obtained this charter, than he laid the foundation of this college with great solemnity; but being charged with high treason in 1529, before the buildings were finished, the estates and possessions of this society were forfeited to the king. This put a stop to the building for three years, but at length the king issued out letters patent, ordering it to be carried on, settling the same revenues on the society, and giving it the name of king Henry the Eighth's college; but in 1545 he suppressed the institution, and the following year erected the church of this college into a cathedral,

cathedral, by the name of the Cathedral Church of Christ, in Oxford, founded by king Henry the Eighth, and settled in it a bishop, a dean and eight canons, eight choristers, a music master, an organist, and forty students, who were to be annually chosen from Westminster-school, and their number was encreased by queen Elizabeth.

The college stands on the south side of the city; its front extends three hundred and eighty-two feet in length, and is terminated at each end by two corresponding turrets: in the center is a noble Gothic entrance, the proportions and ornaments of which are remarkably grand: over the gate is a beautiful tower, in which are ten musical bells, and a great bell, called Tom, that weighs near seventeen thousand pounds, and at nine o'clock every night the students of the whole university, at the sound of this bell, are enjoined by statute, to repair to their respective societies. The college consists of four quadrangles, one of which, distinguished by the name of the Grand Quadrangle, is two hundred and sixty-four feet, by two hundred and sixty-one in the clear, and has a fountain in the middle. The greatest part of the south side is formed by the hall, which is considerably elevated above the rest of the building, and considered as a detached structure, is a noble specimen of ancient magnificence. It is one of the largest and most superb rooms in the kingdom, it extending a hundred and twenty feet in length, forty feet in breadth, and thirty feet in height; and on each side are eight windows. The church, which is seated at the east end of this quadrangle, and is, as we have just observed, the cathedral of the diocese, is an ancient venerable structure. Its tower is over the grand entrance in the front of the college; and the roof of the choir is a beautiful piece of stone-work:

in the east window is an excellent picture of the ascension, and in a window of the Latin chapel, is Jesus disputing with the doctors. Peckwater-court, to the north-east of the Grand Quadrangle, has been rebuilt, and is perhaps the most elegant edifice in the university. It consists of three sides, each of which has fifteen windows in front. To the east of this square is Canterbury-court, originally Canterbury-college: it is small, and chiefly remarkable for its antiquity. The fourth quadrangle stands north-east of Canterbury-court, and is called Chaplain's-court. The cathedral has at present a dean, eight canons, eight chaplains, eight singing-men, eight choristers, a teacher of music, and an organist. The dean is the head of the college, which maintains thirteen regius professors, one hundred and one scholars, and the whole number amounts to about one hundred and fifty. King Henry the Eighth having appointed no special visitor of this college, it is only subject to the visitation of the sovereign, or commissioners under the great seal.

XIV. Trinity-college was founded by Sir Thomas Pope, Knt. lord mayor of London, in 1555. Among the religious houses dissolved by Henry the Eighth, was a college, for the education of the monks of the cathedral church of Durham, and thence called Durham-college. This house being given by king Edward the Sixth, to George Owen his physician, the above Sir Thomas Pope purchased it of that gentleman, repaired the building, and endowing it for a president, twelve fellows, and eight scholars, gave it its present name. This college is seated in the north suburbs, and consists of two courts, in the first of which are the chapel, the hall, the library, and the lodgings of the president. The chapel, which was erected in 1695, is a fine structure of the Doric order.

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The altar-piece is of cedar inlaid, the rails and screen of cedar, and all adorned with exquisite carving. The roof is enriched with fret-work, and a fine painting of the ascension. The pavement, from the screen to the altar, is of black and white marble. The second court is an elegant pile, performed by Sir Christopher Wren. The gardens, on the east side of the college, contain about three acres of ground, and are well laid out: the first you enter from the grand quadrangle, consists of fine gravel-walks and grass-plats, adorned with ever-greens, with which the walls are entirely covered, as those belonging to the other colleges generally are. Adjoining to this, on the south, is another garden, with shady walks of Dutch elms, and beyond it a wilderness. This college has a president, twelve fellows, twelve scholars, and about eighteen independant members.

XV. St. John Baptist-college was founded in the year 1555, the second year of Philip and Mary, by Sir Thomas White, alderman of London, who purchased a building, called Bernard's-college, built by archbishop Chicheley, for the monks of St. Bernard; and in 1557, endowed it by the name of St. John Baptist's-college, for a president, fifty fellows and scholars, three chaplains, three lay-clerks, and six choristers; but about twenty years after, the chaplains, lay-clerks and choristers, were suppressed by the president and fellows. It is situated in the north suburb, and consists of two spacious quadrangles. In the first are the chapel, hall, library, and lodgings of the president. The chapel, which was erected in 1695, is a noble edifice, richly and beautifully finished. The hall is fitted up in the modern taste with great elegance; the screen is of Portland stone in the Ionic order, and the wainscot, which is in

the same order, is remarkably beautiful. It has a fine chimney-piece of variegated marble, over which is a picture of St. John the Baptist, by Titian. The room is also adorned with other excellent pieces, particularly the portraits of several eminent men, who have enriched this college by their beneficence. But what is still more remarkable, on one side of the room is a marble urn, containing the heart of Dr. Rawlinson, inclosed in a silver vessel, which was placed here, according to his own desire in his last will. The second court is an elegant pile, performed by Sir Christopher Wren. The east and west sides have noble piazzas, in the midst of which are two portals, adorned with columns and carving. In one of these fronts, is a brazen statue of king Charles the First, and in the other, of his queen. The library, in this quadrangle, is well furnished with books, manuscripts, and valuable curiosities. The gardens are large and well laid out. This college has a president, fifty fellows, two chaplains, one organist, five singing-men, six choristers, two sextons, and about seventy students.

XVI. Jesus-college was founded by Hugh Price, doctor of the canon laws in this university, who, in the year 1571, procured a charter from queen Elizabeth, for building and endowing a college here, for a principal, eight fellows, and eight scholars; when the queen agreed to furnish timber for the building, on condition that she should have the first nomination of the principal, fellows and scholars, and that it should be called Collegium Jesu infra civitatem et universitatem Oxon, ex fundatione reginae Elizabethae: whence this society claims the honour of having a royal founder. It fronts Exeter-college, and the buildings consist of two courts, in the first of which is the hall, the

the chapel, and the principal's lodgings. On the west side of the inner court is the library, and the other three sides are finished in a decent and uniform manner. This college has a principal, nineteen fellows, eighteen scholars, several exhibitioners and independant students, the whole amounting to about ninety.

XVII. Wadham-college was founded by Nicholas Wadham, Esq; some time a gentleman commoner in this university, and Dorothy his widow. That gentleman having formed the design of building a college here, directed it by his will, to be carried into execution; and accordingly in 1609, his widow and executrix, purchased the site of a dissolved priory of the canons of St. Austin, in the north skirts of the town, and erected a noble quadrangle, adorned with the statues of her husband, and herself over the western gate. She also procured a royal charter, empowering her to endow it, for a warden, fifteen fellows, fifteen scholars, two chaplains, two clerks, and other inferior officers, by the name of Wadham-college; and in the year 1613, it was opened, and the several members admitted. This is one of the most regular, uniform, and beautiful colleges, belonging to the university; it consists of one noble quadrangle, near a hundred and thirty feet square. The windows of the chapel, which is seated on the east side of the court, are finely painted; the east window in particular is admirably executed by Van Ling, a Dutchman; it represents the passion of our Saviour, and is said to have cost 1500 l. This college has a warden, fifteen fellows, fifteen scholars, two chaplains, two clerks, and sixteen exhibitioners; but the number of students of every kind amount to about one hundred.

XVIII. Pembroke-college was founded by Thomas Tisdale, Esq; and Dr. Richard Whightwick.

wick. The first of these gentlemen by his will dated the 30th of January, 1610, left 5000*l.* to purchase an estate for the maintenance of certain fellows and scholars, to be chosen from the free-school of Abingdon in Berkshire, into any college of this university. The trustees of this will offered to add seven fellows, and six scholars, out of this legacy, to Baliol college, but not coming to an agreement, Dr. Whightwick, formerly member of Baliol-college, persuaded those trustees to purchase the building, called Broadgate-hall, which originally belonged to the priory of St. Frideswide, promising, on that condition, to become a considerable benefactor. Mr. Tisdale's trustees therefore, in 1624, procured a charter, empowering them to found a college in Broadgate-hall, for a master, ten fellows, and ten scholars, which was called Pembroke-college, in honour of William, earl of Pembroke, then chancellor of the university. The royal charter likewise empowered George, archbishop of Canterbury, William, earl of Pembroke, and Dr. Richard Whightwick, to form a body of statutes for the society, who were allowed to purchase lands and tenements of the yearly value of 700*l.* Soon after the fellows and scholars were put in possession of this college, but the number of students encreasing to such a degree, that the building could not accommodate them, the society annexed to this college certain chambers, called Abingdon and Camby Lodgings. This college is seated on the south side of the city, and consists of two courts: the first is a small, but neat and uniform quadrangle; the second is an irregular area, on one side of which is the chapel, which is an elegant modern structure of the Ionic order. The members of this college are a master, fourteen fellows, twenty-four scholars

lars and exhibitioners ; but all the students of every kind amount to near sixty.

XIX. Worcester-college was originally called Gloucester-hall, from its being a seminary for educating the monks of Gloucester. On the suppression of abbeys it fell into the king's hands, and afterwards was given by queen Elizabeth to Mr. Doddington, of whom it was purchased by Sir Thomas White, founder of St. John Baptist's-college, and by him repaired, endowed, and conveyed to that society, who made it a house for students ; but in 1714, this hall being endowed by Sir Thomas Cooke of Aftley, near the city of Worcester, Bart. for a provost, six fellows, and six scholars, it was erected into a college, by the name of Worcester-college. It is seated at the extremity of the western suburb, upon an eminence on the bank of the Thames. It has a grand court, in which is a library of the Ionic order, a hundred feet long, supported by spacious cloysters, and well furnished with books. Here are also a chapel and hall, which have been lately erected, each of which is fifty feet long, and twenty-five broad. This college is a well disposed, elegant structure, and has a garden sloping down to the water. Here are a provost, twenty fellows, and seventeen scholars ; but the whole number of the students amount to about fifty.

XX. Hartford-college was originally called Hart-hall, from Elias de Hartford, who, in the reign of Edward the First, under that name, demised it to some scholars of the university. In 1312 it was purchased by Walter Stapledon, bishop of Exeter, the founder of Exeter-college, who assigned this hall, together with another tenement, called Arthur's hall, to twelve scholars. While the bishop's scholars continued here, it was called Stapledon-hall, but they removing, it re-

covered its former name. But this hall being at length endowed by its late principal Dr. Richard Newton, for a principal, four senior fellows or tutors, and junior fellows or assistants, with a certain number of students or scholars, it was on the 8th of September, 1740, erected into a college, by the name of Hartford-college. It is seated opposite to the grand gate of the public schools, and consists of one irregular court, which has been beautified, from a fund raised for that purpose by the late principal, and part of it consists of modern buildings, according to a plan projected in the year 1747. The foundation consists of a principal, four senior fellows or tutors, and junior fellows or assistants, besides a certain number of students or scholars. The present number are about twenty.

These are the twenty colleges, of which this celebrated university at present consists. Besides which are five halls, and several noble buildings not yet mentioned. The halls are St. Edmund's, St. Magdalen's, St. Alban's, St. Mary's, and New-Inn hall. These five halls are the only remains left of the numerous inns or academical houses, originally possessed by the students of Oxford. They are neither endowed nor incorporated, but are subject to their respective principals, whose salaries arise from the rents paid for the lodgings. The principals are appointed by the chancellor of the university, that of Edmund-hall excepted, whose principal is nominated by Queen's-college, under the patronage of which Edmund-hall still remains.

Among the other public buildings belonging to the university, we ought not to omit those noble structures, the public schools, the New or Radcliffian library, the Theatre, the Ashmolean Museum, and the Clarendon Printing-house.

The

The public schools, of which there is one for every college, are placed together, and form the ground apartments of a very large and magnificent quadrangle, the principal front of which is on the outside a hundred and seventy-five feet in length. In the center of this front is a tower, the highest apartments of which are used for astronomical observations, and philosophical experiments. Three sides of the upper story of the quadrangle, form one entire room, called the Picture-gallery, which is furnished with portraits of the founders and benefactors of the university, with other eminent persons. This quadrangle was first erected by queen Mary, and was rebuilt in the reign of king James the First, chiefly at the expence of Sir Thomas Bodley, who also partly erected a public library here, which he furnished with such a number of books and manuscripts, that with other large donations, it is now become one of the principal libraries in Europe. In one of the schools are placed the Arundelian marbles, and in another are an inestimable collection of statues, &c. presented to the university by the countess dowager of Pomfret.

The New or Radcliffian library was founded by Dr. John Radcliffe, who left 40,000 l. for building a library for the Bodlean collection of books and manuscripts, with a salary of 150 l. a year to a librarian, and 100 l. a year towards furnishing it with new books. The first stone of this structure was laid on the 17th of May, 1737, and the library opened with great solemnity on the 13th of April, 1745. It stands in the midst of a magnificent square, formed by St. Mary's church, the public schools, Brazen-Nose and All-Souls colleges. It is a very noble pile of building, standing upon arcades, which circularly disposed, enclose a spacious dome, in the center of which

is the library, and into it is an ascent by a flight of spiral steps. The library, which is extremely magnificent and elegant, is inclosed by a circular series of arches, supported by pilasters of the Ionic order, and beautified with festoons. Behind these arches are formed two circular galleries, one above, and the other below, where the books are disposed in elegant cabinets. The finishing and decorations of this elegant structure are all in the highest taste; the cieling is adorned with fine compartments of stucco; over the door is a statue of the founder, and the pavement is of two colours, formed of a peculiar species of stone, brought from Harts-forest in Germany.

The Theatre is a magnificent structure, erected for celebrating the public acts of the university; the annual commemoration of its benefactors, and some other solemnities. The building, which is in the form of a Roman D, was erected by Sir Christopher Wren in 1669, at the expence of Dr. Sheldon, archbishop of Canterbury, then chancellor of the university, who not only bestowed 15,000*l.* in building it, but endowed it with 2000*l.* to purchase lands for its perpetual repair. The front, which stands opposite to the Divinity school, is adorned with Corinthian columns, and other decorations. The roof is flat, and being neither supported by pillars nor arch-work, rests on the walls, which are distant from each other eighty feet one way, and seventy the other: the cieling is covered with allegorical painting. The vice-chancellor, with the two proctors, are seated in the semi-circular part, with the noblemen and doctors on each hand, the masters of arts in the area, and the rest of the university and strangers, in the galleries.

The Ashmolean Museum is seated on the west side of the Theatre, and is an elegant, modern edifice,

edifice, built by Sir Christopher Wren in 1683, at the expence of the university. Its front, towards the street, extends sixty feet in length, and has a grand portico of the Corinthian order: this edifice consists of two stories, in the lower of which is a chemical laboratory, and in the higher a repository of natural and artificial curiosities and Roman antiquities, chiefly collected by Elias Ashmole, and his father-in-law Sir William Dugdale.

The Clarendon Printing-house, which surpasses every thing of the kind in Europe, is seated almost contiguous to the theatre, and at a small distance from the museum. It was founded in 1711, and built partly from the money arising to the university, from the profits of the copy of lord Clarendon's history of the grand rebellion, the profit of which his lordship left to the university. This is a strong stone building, one hundred and fifteen feet in length, with spacious porticos in the north and south fronts, supported by columns of the Doric order, and the top of the building is adorned with the statues of Homer, Virgil, Thucydides, and the nine muses. The east part of the building is appropriated chiefly to the printing of bibles and common-prayer books. There are also in this structure particular rooms for a letter-founder, and others for rolling-presses, where the Oxford almanacks and other pieces are printed from engravings on copper-plates.

We shall conclude our account of this city and university, with a concise view of the religious foundations which flourished here in times of popery.

About the year 730 Didanus, a petty king in these parts, is said to have founded a nunnery at Oxford, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, which at first consisted of twelve religious virgins
of

of noble birth, under the government of his daughter Frideswide, who was interred here, and afterwards canonized for a saint, whence this convent, in course of time, was dedicated to her memory, and generally called by her name. This house flourished many years, and was made use of as a sanctuary, which at length occasioned its destruction. It is said, that king Ethelred being unable to expel the Danes, who oppressed his subjects in a terrible manner, he determined to have them massacred, appointing the 13th of November in the year 1002 for the execution of that bloody work. Oxford was as forward in perpetrating this cruelty as any other place; when several Danes flying for refuge into St. Frideswide's church, the enraged populace set it on fire, and not only burnt the Danes, but the library and all the costly ornaments. King Ethelred, who was at Oxford at the same time, rebuilt the church soon after, as appears by his charter, dated in the year 1004, wherein he mentions the Danish slaughter. After this it was successively in the possession of the secular canons, monks, priests, and regular canons of the order of St. Austin, and continued in being till it was dissolved by pope Clement the Seventh, at the instance of Cardinal Wolsey, when its annual revenues were valued at 224 l. 4 s. 8 d. Upon the cite of this monastery, Christchurch college, as we have already intimated, was founded, and partly endowed by its revenues.

Here was an hospital in the reign of king John, dedicated to St. John Baptist, consisting of a master, and several brothers and sisters: king Henry the Third new-founded, or at least rebuilt it, laying the first stone himself in the year 1233. King Henry the Sixth gave the master and brethren leave to give up, and convey this house and all the estates belonging to it to
William

William Wainfleet, bishop of Winchester, who on, or near the site of it, laid the foundation of Magdalen college.

The Dominican friars, on their coming to England in 1221, repaired to Oxford, where Isabel de Bulbec, widow to Robert, earl of Oxford, gave them ground in St. Edward's parish, where they built a house and chapel; but about forty years after, they removed to a little island in St. Ebb's parish, near the water gate, given them by king Henry the Third, where they continued till the dissolution.

The Franciscan friars came to Oxford in 1224, and likewise settled in St. Ebb's parish, in houses assigned them by Richard le Mercer, Richard le Miller, Thomas Walongs, and others.

St. Mary's college consisted of regular canons of the order of St. Augustin, and was appropriated to the study of the canons of the several abbies of that order in England. Henry the Sixth, by his letters patent, dated in 1435, granted them lands in the city of Oxford, where they built a house, and added to it several buildings, many of which are now standing. The revenues of this college were little, if any at all, the canons being maintained by the great abbies of their own order.

The friars eremites of St. Augustin, were empowered by the pope to settle in any country whatever; upon which they came to London, and afterwards to Oxford, where hiring an obscure house, they had soon an opportunity of distinguishing themselves by their learning. They afterwards, in 1268, obtained leave to build a house and chapel, and these they rendered very beautiful structures. They had their schools for divinity and philosophy, and many extraordinary men proceeded from them. They had several benefactors, and after the dissolution, the site and ground

ground were sold, and the materials of the building carried off; but in the reign of king James the First, Wadham college was built on the spot where it stood.

In one of the islets made by the river Thames, called Oseney islands, an abbey of regular canons of St. Augustin was founded by Robert D'Oyley, with the consent of Editha his wife, in the year 1129. The house at its first erection was but ordinary, but in the following ages, by the assistance of several benefactors, it became an abbey, and according to some authors, was second to none in England. It was surrendered to Henry the Eighth after it had flourished four hundred and ten years, when the revenues were valued at 654 l. a year by Dugdale; but at 756 l. by Speed. Upon the erection of the new bishopric by Henry the Eighth in 1542, this abbey was changed into a cathedral church, dedicated to Christ and the Virgin Mary, in which were settled a dean and six prebendaries, who were the chapter of the bishop of Oxford; but this establishment continued only three or four years; for, in 1546, the convential church of St. Fridewide, then called King Henry the Eighth's college, was made the cathedral, and called Christchurch.

In the year 1225 the Carmelite friars first settled in this city, in a house given them by Nicholas de Molis, some time governor of Oxford castle, on the ground where Worcester college now stands; but sixty years after, king Edward the Second gave to twenty-four of these friars a royal palace, called Beaumont, built by king Henry the First, in the north part of the city, where they continued till the dissolution.

The friars of penance, or sackcloth, came into England in 1259, and to Oxford in 1262, where they

they obtained a small spot of ground without the west gate, on which they built a house and chapel. They afterwards purchased a little field with money given them for that purpose; but this order being abolished in 1307, and their possessions coming into the king's hands, he gave them to the Franciscans, who demolished all the buildings.

Recoley, by some called North-Oseney, was an abbey of Cistercian monks in the suburbs of Oxford, seated among pleasant groves, watered by rivulets. It was founded in 1281 by Richard, earl of Cornwall, who endowed it with lands and tenements. It had several other benefactors, and at the dissolution had twenty-one monks. Part of this house, together with the refectory, was standing in the year 1720. At the dissolution its revenues were valued at 174 l. a year. It was afterwards given to the dean and canons of Christchurch.

On the south side of the street, without the East-gate, Edmund, earl of Cornwall, founded a small house and chapel in the year 1291, for the Trinitarian friars of the redemption of captives; in which, and in a chapel dedicated to the Trinity, within East-gate, the brethren of this order, and several poor scholars, who lived upon alms, continued till near the time of the general dissolution.

The Crouched friars had, in a place called Grantpoint, near Broadgate-hall, a house given them in the reign of Edward the First, by Richard Cary, mayor of the city; but about the year 1348, they procured a house and chapel near St. Peter's church in the east.

About a mile eastward of the city, there is yet in being a small hospital, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, as ancient as the reign of king Henry the First. It formerly consisted of a master, who was
a priest,

a priest, a clerk, six infirm or leproous brethren, and two in health, to take care of the house. In 1328 king Edward the Third gave it to Oriel college, upon condition of maintaining in it a chaplain and eight poor brethren.

In this city were born the following eminent persons distinguished by their learning.

Thomas Cooper, a learned bishop of the sixteenth century, was born, about the year 1517, in the city of Oxford, and educated in the university of that place, where he took the degrees in arts, physic, and divinity. As he was a zealous protestant, he followed the practice of physic during the dangerous reign of queen Mary; but, on the accession of queen Elizabeth, returned to the study of divinity, and became a most eloquent and popular preacher. His first station in the church was that of dean of Christ-church in Oxford, from whence he rose to the deanery of Gloucester, to the see of Lincoln, and, last of all, to the rich bishopric of Winchester, which he held till his death. He expired on the 19th of April, 1594, and was interred in the cathedral of Winchester. Besides some sermons, and other small tracts, he compiled a *Chronicle* and a *Latin Dictionary*.

Thomas Harriot, the first inventor of the way of Notation now universally used in Algebra, was born and bred at Oxford, where he distinguished himself particularly by his knowledge in the mathematics. His first patron among the great was the famous Sir Walter Raleigh, who sent him to his new colony of Virginia, where Mr. Harriot made a map of the country. Upon his return to England, he was introduced to the acquaintance of Henry Piercy, earl of Northumberland, who gave him a pension of one hundred and twenty pounds

pounds a year, and kept an open table for him, and some other of his mathematical friends in the Tower, where his lordship was then imprisoned. In a little time after the death of Raleigh, Mr. Harriot was seized with a cancer in his lip, which put a period to his life on the 2d of July, 1621. He left behind him several works in manuscript, none of which have been printed except his *Artis Analyticae Praxis*, &c. the substance of which was borrowed by Des Cartes, and for a long time passed upon the world as the invention of that gentleman; but it was afterwards restored to its right owner.

William Chillingworth, a learned writer and eminent divine of the seventeenth century, was the son of Mr. William Chillingworth, citizen, and some time mayor of Oxford; and was born in the parish of St. Martin in that city, in the month of October, 1602. Having received the rudiments of classical learning at a private school, he was admitted a scholar of Trinity college, Oxford, where he took the degrees of master and bachelor of arts, and in 1628 was made fellow of his college. About this time, by the arts and insinuations of the famous Jesuit, John Fisher, he was unhappily converted to the Romish religion, and persuaded to retire to the Jesuits college at Douay: but, at the earnest intercession of Dr. Laud, then bishop of London, he returned soon after to his native country; and having examined with greater care, the points controverted between the Papists and the Protestants, he embraced once more the reformed doctrines. This engaged him in a literary war with several Roman-Catholics, over whom, in the opinion of most men, he always obtained the victory; and his triumph was rendered complete by a piece, which he published in 1637, intitled, *the Religion of Protestants a safe way*

way to Salvation. But, notwithstanding his return to the English church, he had still some difficulty with regard to the subscription of the thirty-nine articles; and this prevented him, at least, for some time, from receiving any ecclesiastical preferment: but having at last overcome his scruples, and consented to subscribe, he was promoted to the chancellorship of the church of Sarum, with the prebend of Brixworth in Northamptonshire annexed. Upon the breaking out of the civil war he adhered to the royal cause, and attended his majesty at the siege of Gloucester in 1643, when observing the soldiers in want of materials to carry on their attacks, he proposed making engines, in imitation of the Roman *Testudines cum pluteis*, in order to storm the place; but, before his proposal could be put in execution, the siege was suddenly raised by the earl of Essex. Soon after he was taken prisoner, among other royalists, in Arundel castle; and being conveyed to Chichester, he died there, January the 30th, 1644, and was interred in the cathedral of that city. His works are numerous and well known; and are no less esteemed for perspicuity of style, than force of reasoning.

Edward Pocock, one of the greatest masters of Oriental learning in the seventeenth century, was born, November the 8th, 1604, in the city of Oxford, and educated in the university of that place. He applied himself early to the study of the eastern languages; and in this he made so considerable a proficiency, that, before he had attained to the twenty-sixth year of his age, he was appointed chaplain to the English factory at Aleppo. There he resided for the space of six years; during which, all the time he could spare from the duties of his office, was employed either in perfecting himself in the Arabic tongue, or in collect-

collecting Greek and Oriental manuscripts for Dr. Laud, then bishop of London, who had given him a commission for that purpose. Returning to his native country in 1636, he was nominated by Dr. Laud, then archbishop of Canterbury, to read the Arabic lecture, which that primate had founded at Oxford. In a little more than a year after he set out once more for the east; and arriving at Constantinople, employed himself as formerly in collecting coins and curious manuscripts. Having completed his collection, he returned by the way of Paris, and was there introduced to the famous Hugo Grotius, whom he acquainted with his design of translating into Arabic that author's excellent treatise concerning the truth of the Christian Religion. Grotius very readily assented to the proposal, and at the same time authorized him to make such alterations and improvements in the original as he should think proper. In 1648, he was appointed by the king (then a prisoner in the Isle of Wight) professor of Hebrew, and prebendary of Christ-church Oxford; and this grant was soon after confirmed by the committee of both houses: but refusing to take the Engagement, he was, in 1650, ejected from these preferments, though re-instated in them again at the time of the restoration. This great event he survived above thirty years, and dying September the 10th, 1691, in his eighty-seventh year, was interred in one of the north isles adjoining to the choir in the cathedral of Christ church. His learning, which was great, was his smallest recommendation. His piety, probity, meekness and humanity, secured him the love of all his contemporaries, and have made his name to be mentioned by them in the most endearing expressions. His works are numerous, and greatly esteemed by those who are conversant
in

in the Oriental languages. His *Arabic Proverbs*, amounting to six thousand, his *Specimen Historiae Arabum*, and his *Porta Moſis*, are the moſt conſiderable. He was likewiſe concerned in the edition of the Polyglott Bible, and wrote commentaries upon the Minor Prophets.

William D'Avenant, poet laureat in the reigns of Charles the Firſt and Charles the Second, was born in Oxford in the year 1605. His father, Mr. John D'Avenant, a vintner of that place, was a man, it is ſaid of a very peaceable diſpoſition, and his mother a woman of great ſpirit and beauty; and as their houſe was much frequented by the celebrated Shakeſpeare, this gave occaſion to a report, that the tragedian ſtood in a nearer relation, than that of a friend, to our author. Be this as it will, young D'Avenant, having finiſhed his ſtudies at the univerſity of his native place, was taken into the ſervice, firſt of Frances, dutcheſs of Richmond, and afterwards of Fulke Greville, lord Brooke, who had himſelf an excellent taſte for poetry. During his reſidence in the families of theſe two noble patrons, he wrote ſeveral plays and poems; and upon the death of Ben Johnſon, in 1637, was appointed poet laureat. When the civil wars began he adhered to his ſovereign, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood; and, after the ruin of that prince's affairs, he retired to Paris, where he wrote his *Gondibert*. There too he formed a ſcheme for carrying over to Virginia a conſiderable number of artificers, eſpecially weavers; but he had no ſooner ſet ſail with his ſmall company, than he was ſeized by the ſhips of the Engliſh parliament, and carried priſoner, firſt to the Iſle of Wight, and thence to the Tower of London. For ſome time he was thought to be in the moſt imminent danger; but at length his life was happily ſaved,
and

and even his liberty restored, by the powerful mediation of the celebrated poet Milton. Reduced, however, to very low circumstances, he began to bethink himself how he might repair them; and as he knew that a play-house was utterly inconsistent with the sanctity of those times, he opened an opera for music and declamation. These operas were soon after succeeded by other representations of a more dramatic nature; and upon the restoration of king Charles the Second, Sir William D'Avenant was placed at the head of the duke's company of players, who acted in the Cock-pit in Drury-Lane. This return of his good fortune he survived about eight years, and dying April the 7th, 1668, was interred in Westminster-abbey, where, in imitation of Ben Johnson's humorous epitaph, the following inscription was engraved on his tomb-stone, *O Rare Sir William D'Avenant!*

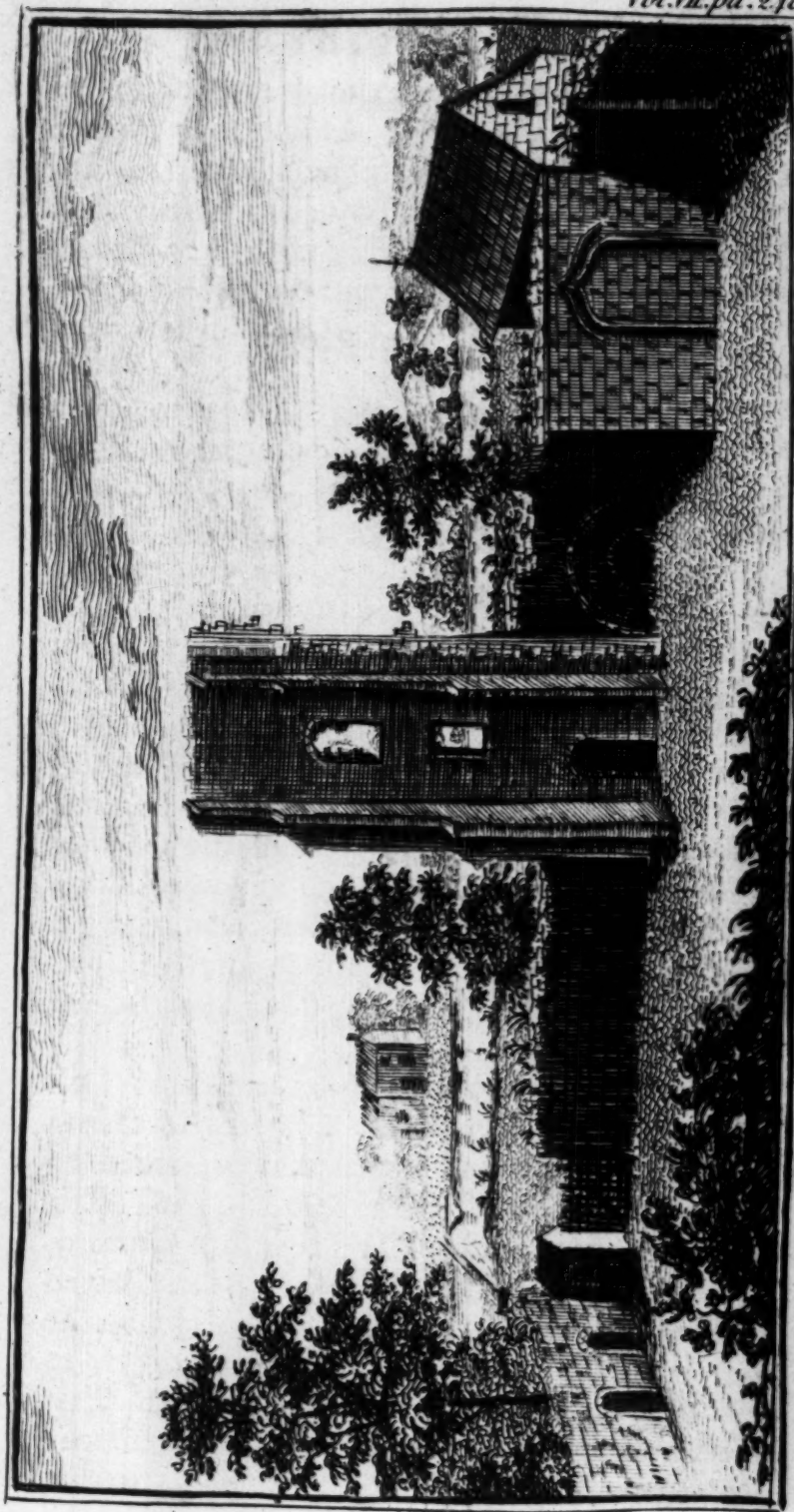
Anthony Wood, or Anthony a Wood, was descended of a genteel family, and born December the 17th, 1632, at Oxford, where he was also educated. Naturally of a studious and contemplative turn of mind, and indeed, in the strictest sense of the word *Helluo Librorum*, he devoted himself entirely to the pursuits of literature. In 1660 he began to collect materials for his *Historia & Antiquitates Universitatis Oxoniensis*, which was published in 1674. He sold the copy to the university for a hundred pounds. It was originally written in English, but translated into Latin by another hand, under the inspection of Dr. Fell. He afterwards compiled his *Athenae Oxonienses*, which made its appearance in 1691. Upon the publication of this work, he was attacked by the university, on account of some reflections he had thrown upon Edward, earl of Clarendon, lord high-chancellor of England, and chancellor of Oxford.

Oxford. He was likewise animadverted upon by bishop Burnet, in a letter which that prelate wrote to the bishop of Litchfield and Coventry. This occasioned Mr. Wood's writing his *Vindication*, &c. in 1693. He survived this period about two years, dying in the end of October, 1695. The disease, which carried him off, was a total suppression of urine.

At LITTLEMORE, or LIDMORE, a village near Oxford, was a Benedictine nunnery, founded by some of the predecessors of Henry the Third, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas. This was one of the small convents suppressed by the pope's bull in 1524, and given to cardinal Wolsey, towards founding his new college at Oxford, called Christ-church. Its revenues at its suppression were valued at 33 l. 6 s. 8 d. a year.

At STUDLEY, six miles north-east of Oxford, and on the borders of Buckinghamshire, Bernard de St. Walerico, about the middle of the reign of king Henry the Second, built and endowed a priory for Benedictine nuns, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which, at the time of the suppression, was valued at about 82 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 102 l. by Speed.

GODSTOW, a village two miles north of Oxford, was once remarkable for a priory of Benedictine nuns, founded by a rich widow named Editha, who became the first abbess in 1138. Fair Rosamond, the daughter of Walter, lord Clifford, was a nun in this house, and was greatly famed for her beauty. At the solicitation of Henry the Second, she left the nunnery, and was taken to Woodstock, as has been already mentioned. Part of the church is still standing, and more particularly the tower; but all the rest is down, except a very small part of the walls. Of these ruins we have given an engraved view. This priory was
valued



The West View of Godstow Nunnery, near Oxford.



Valued at the suppression at 274 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 320 l. by Speed.

A few miles north-east of Oxford is OTTMOOR, a low level ground, frequently overflowed in the winter. A small Cistercian monastery was built upon it, and named Otteley, from an adjacent wood; but its low situation rendering it disagreeable to the monks, it was removed by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, to Thame, where he erected another for them in his park.

At TEMPLE-COWLEY, a little to the south-east of Oxford, queen Maud, the wife of king Stephen, gave the manor of the village to the knights templars, who built a house of their order upon it, in which was a preceptor and brethren, who afterwards removed to Sandford near Oxford, the manor of which place was given to the templars by Sir Thomas de Sandford, in the reign of Richard the First, or king John. After the dissolution of this order, it became the chief residence of a preceptor, and brethren of the knights hospitallers.

From Oxford a road leads eight miles north by west to WOODSTOCK, which is so called from the Saxon Wudestoc, which signifies a woody place. It has been a royal seat, and here king Alfred translated Boetius de Consolatione Philosophiae. In the time of king Ethelred, it was so considerable a place, that he called a parliament here. After the conquest Henry the First took great delight in the palace of this town, made some additions to the buildings, and enclosed the park with a stone wall. In this palace Henry the Second resided, when Rice, prince of Wales, came in the year 1163, to do homage to that king and his son. But what renders this place most famous, is a labyrinth built by that prince, called Rosamand's bower, with a house in it, to secrete his

concubine Rosamond Clifford, from Eleanor his queen; but there are now no traces, either of the palace or bower. In this palace the princess Elizabeth, afterwards queen, was for some time kept prisoner.

The town of Woodstock is governed by a mayor, a recorder, four aldermen, and sixteen common-councilmen, and sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the burgeses and free-men, who amount to about four hundred in number. The streets are well paved, and there are here very good inns. The inhabitants have a manufacture of steel chains for watches, and other things in polished steel; they are also famous for wash-leather gloves, which are esteemed the best in England; but the number of hands employed in each of these articles is very inconsiderable. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, Richard Cromwell, citizen of London, founded a school here, and there are also three alms-houses. The town has a market on Tuesdays, and five fairs, held on the 25th of March, and the Tuesday in Whitsun-week, for all sorts of cattle; and the Tuesday after the 1st of November, and on the 2d of October, for cheese, and all sorts of cattle; and on the 17th of December, for cheese and hogs.

The honour and manor of the town and hundred of Woodstock were, in the reign of the late queen Anne, settled by parliament upon John Churchill, duke of Marlborough, who commanded the army of the grand alliance, formed by Great-Britain, Holland, Portugal, and other powers, against France and Spain; and upon his descendants male and female, as a monument of national gratitude for his bravery and conduct; and a palace was also erected for him at the public expence, in a very delightful situation, about half a mile distant from Woodstock, which, to com-
memorate

memorate the important victory he obtained over the French and Bavarians at Blenheim, was called Blenheim-house. It was built by Sir John Vanbrugh, and though a heavy building, like the rest of that architect's performances, must be acknowledged to be a magnificent structure. On entering the first grand hall, which is one of the finest in England, every person of taste is disgusted at its dimensions, it being fifty-three feet long, forty-four broad, and sixty high; this extraordinary height has a disagreeable effect, from its taking off the appearance of largeness in the area at bottom. In the center is the saloon door, and on each side, some very large and magnificent columns, in a good taste and proportion; and over them is a gallery in a grand style. The saloon has the same defect with respect to height, it being forty-four feet long, thirty-three broad, and forty-five high. The door-cases are of marble, and exceeding magnificent. On the left is a suit of rooms, as a drawing-room, twenty-eight feet square, adorned with pictures, by Rubens, as the Holy Family, the Roman Charity, the Virgin and child, their flight into Egypt, the offerings of the wise men, in which the old men's heads are exceeding fine, Lot driven out of Sodom, our Saviour blessing the children, Paracelsus, wonderfully fine, and pope Gregory. The breakfast room is twenty-four feet square, and adorned with fine pictures of Silenus and Andromeda, and three very fine ones by Rembrandt, of the woman taken in adultery, the circumcision, and an old man. The library is a hundred and eighty feet in length, forty-three broad in the middle, and thirty at each end. This is one of the noblest rooms of the kind in England; it is adorned with marble pilasters, and at one end is a very fine statue of queen Anne, in white marble, by Rysbrack. Some of

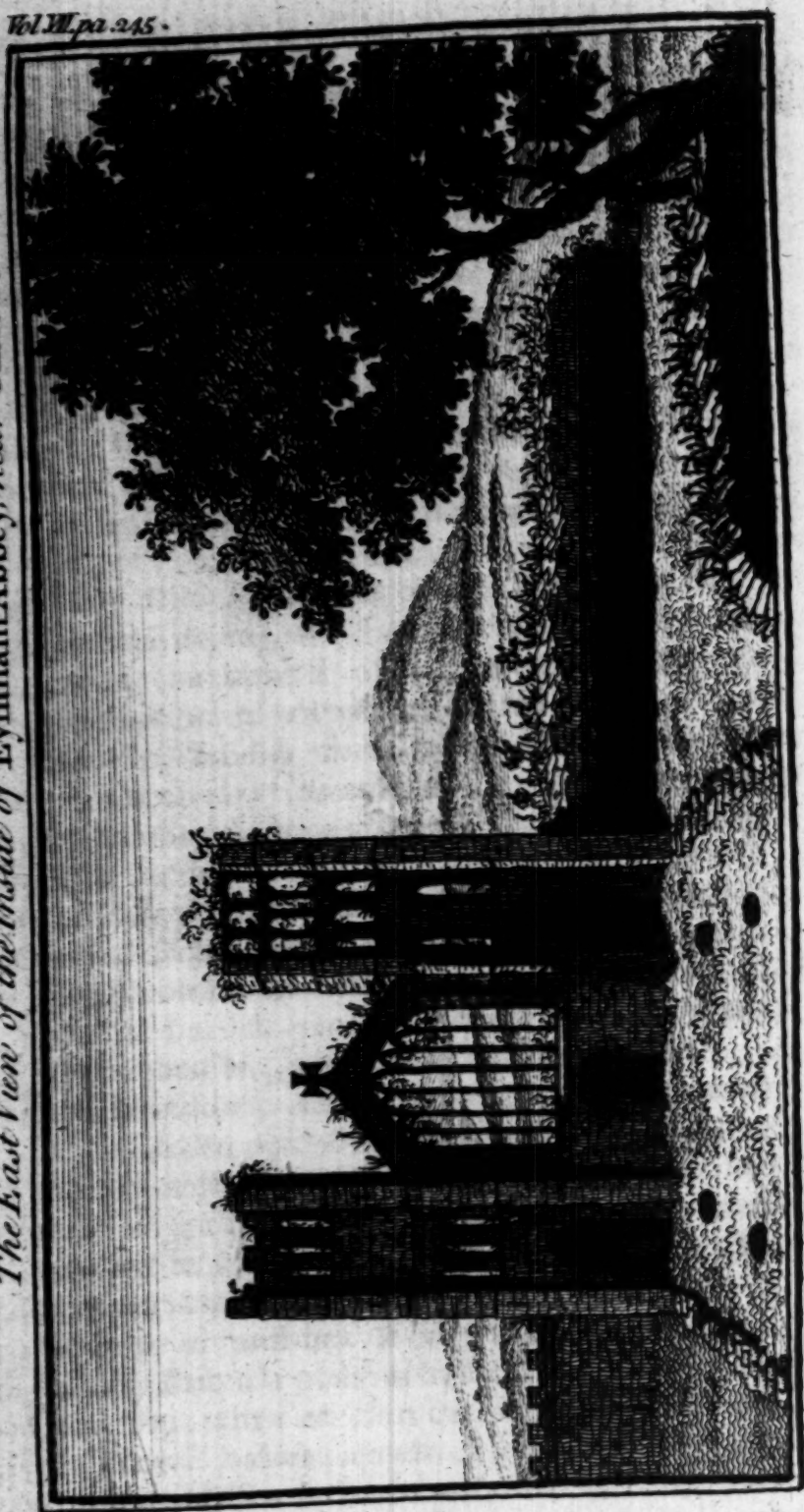
the apartments are hung with exceeding fine Brusefel's tapèstry, containing the history of the great duke's campaigns. Among the other pictures, in this palace, are the Loves of the gods, by Titian; a present from the king of Sardinia; several large pieces, by Rubens, particularly that celebrated one of himself, his wife, and child; and here is a gallery, the cieling of which is painted by la Guerre, and the other parts by Sir James Thornhill. There is an ascent to this palace, from the town of Woodstock, over a bridge of one arch, which is a hundred and ninety feet in diameter, and cost 20,000*l*. Over a pediment, in the front of the house, is a fine marble bust of Lewis the Fourteenth, bigger than the life, taken from the gate of the citadel of Tournay. The gardens, which contain above a hundred acres, are well laid out, having fine walks, groves and vistas, terminated by some remarkable objects in the neighbouring country. Several additions were made to this villa after the duke's death, by his dutchess; particularly a triumphal arch at the entrance from Woodstock, and an obelisk in the chief avenue of Woodstock park, on which is inscribed an elegant summary of the duke's actions and character, wrote by the late Dr. Hare, who had been his grace's chaplain, and was afterwards raised to the see of Chichester. The duke's descendants are obliged, by way of homage, for the tenure of this manor, to present annually a standard to the sovereign on the second of August, the anniversary of the victory of Blenheim.

Four miles south of Woodstock is ENSHAM, a village seated among delightful meadows. Notice has been taken of it in the most early times, and in king Etheldred's charter, it is termed a famous place. Cutholf the Saxon, first took it from the Britons, and Aethelmare, earl of Devonshire, erected



The East View of the Inside of Eynsham Abbey, near Oxford.

Vol. III. p. 245.



erected and endowed a Benedictine abbey here, before the year 1005, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Bendedict, and All-Saints. It was repaired by Henry the First, and had afterwards many benefactors. In the year 1539, it was surrendered to Henry the Eighth, when its revenues was valued at 441 l. 12 s. 2 d. a year, after which it belonged to the earl of Derby. The ruins of this structure, of which we have given an engraved view, shew that it was a most magnificent edifice; for the front, which is still standing, is pretty entire, and it has two fine towers with battlements on the top.

A small distance to the south of Woodstock, and about three miles to the north-east of Ensham, are the villages of BEGBROOK and BLADEN, which are only remarkable for an old fortification, commonly called the Round-castle, which stands near Begbrook-church, though it is in the parish of Bladen. Here is a passage under ground down to the river Chirwell; but upon what account it was built, historians are silent. In the quarries here is a gritty sort of oker, sometimes seen in the seams of the rocks, and sometimes in the body of the stone.

Ten miles to the eastward of Woodstock, and thirteen miles north by east of Oxford, is BICESTER, or BISSETER, by the Saxons called Birn-cester, a town seated on the road from Oxford to Buckingham. It is a long, straggling place, with a church, a meeting-house, and a free-school. It is remarkable for its excellent malt-liquor, and has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, held on the Friday in Easter-week, the first Friday in June, the 5th of August, and the 13th of December, for horses, sheep, swine, wool, toys, &c. Dr. Plot informs us, that a Danish spur was found in this town, which he considers as a proof

that the Danes had been here, and particularly, that the battle between king Ethelred, and his brother Alfred, against the Danes, was fought near this town.

At Bicester Gilbert Basset, baron of Hedington, built a monastery in the year 1182, for a prior, and eleven Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Eadburgh, which was valued at the suppression at 147 l. 2 s. 10 d. per annum; and in 1355, a license was granted to Nicholas Jurdan, hermite, warden of a chapel here, dedicated to St. John Baptist, to found an hospital in this town for poor and infirm people, to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John Baptist, and to purchase lands for endowing it, to the value of 5 l. a year, but it does not appear that this design was ever carried into execution.

At the distance of about a mile and a half to the south of Bicester, are the ruins of **ALCHES-TER**, which in the Saxon language signifies an old castle. It is seated on the Roman consular way, called Akeman-street, in a common belonging to the inhabitants of Wendlebury, a neighbouring village, and every one has a small part of it to plow up. The husbandmen told Dr. Stukeley, that they frequently break their ploughs against foundations of hewn stone and brick. An infinite number of coins have been found here, and they have also found images, and many other antiquities. The city was fenced round with a bank and ditch, which are still visible, though both are greatly changed by the plough. The little brook that runs through the ditch on the south side, originally encompassed the city, and the sides of the city faced the four cardinal points. There are still the traces of a street that passed through the middle of the city from south to north, and another street crossed the contrary way. Great foundations have likewise been found all round the fields,

fields, and on the west side is an artificial mount, called Castlehill, which is full of Roman bricks, stones and foundations.

Near ARDLEY, a village three miles north-west of Bicester, was an ancient castle, the ruins of which are still to be seen in a little wood on the west side of the town. It is thought to have flourished in the time of king Stephen, and to have been one of the eleven hundred new built castles he is said to have demolished.

We shall now proceed back to Woodstock, and from thence to WHITNEY, or WITNEY, a very ancient town sixty-three miles north-west of London. It was well known before the conquest: Edward the Second made it a free borough, and it sent members to parliament; but this privilege ceased in the thirty-third year of the reign of Edward the Third. It chiefly consists of one street about a mile long, and is remarkable for its woollen manufactory, which consists of what is called Kersey-pieces, coarse bear-skins, and blankets. The two first they make for the North-American market, vast quantities being sent to New York and up the river St. Lawrence. This is the principal town in England for blanketing. The finest blankets, which rise in price to 3l. a pair, are exported to Spain and Portugal; but all are first sent to London in broad-wheel waggons. The finest wool they work comes from Herefordshire and Worcestershire, and the coarsest from Lincolnshire. There are at present above five hundred weavers in the town, who work up seven thousand packs of wool annually, and no less than three thousand persons are employed in carding and spinning. The blankets are scoured in mills erected for that purpose on the river Windrush, the water of which, from a peculiar obsterfive nitrous quality, is very fit for this use. The town is very

populous, and has an hospital for six poor blanket-makers widows; with a free-school founded and endowed by Mr. Henry Box, a druggist in London, with a fine library adjoining to it: the grocer's company in London are the governors of this school, and its visitors the members of Oriel college, Oxford. Here is also a school for twelve poor children founded in 1723, by John Holloway; and a person named Blake has made such an addition, that thirty children are now taught in it. Whitney has a market on Thursdays, and three fairs, held on Thursday in Easter-week, and the 29th of June, for all sorts of cattle, and on the 23d of November, for cheese and cattle of all sorts.

At COGGS, near Whitney, was an alien priory of Black friars, subordinate to the abbey of the Trinity at Fiscamp in Normandy, who seem to have been placed here by the ancestors of Manasser Arsic, lord of the barony of this place, before the year 1103.

Two miles and a half north-west of Whitney is MINSTER LOVEL, where was a priory belonging to the abbey of St. Mary de Ibrieo in Normandy. At first it was the estate of Roger de Cheney, but was afterwards bought by the family of the Lovels, whence it was called Minster Lovel; but Francis lord Lovel joining king Richard the Third in the battle of Bosworth field, was forced to fly, and upon the accession of Henry the Seventh, his estate was seized, and with several others, were given to Jasper, duke of Bedford, half brother to king Henry the Sixth, but was afterwards again in the possession of the lord Lovel.

Seven miles to the south by west of Whitney is BAMPTON, which is seated on a small river, that runs into the Thames or Isis, and was a place of greater consequence before the conquest, than it is at present. It has a charity-school for
twenty

twenty children, and a market on Wednesdays, to which are brought in great quantities leathern jackets, gloves, breeches and stockings, from Whitney and other neighbouring places, and purchased for the peasants of Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire. It has a fair on the 26th of August, for horses and toys.

John Philips, a most elegant and ingenious poet, in the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries, son of Dr. Stephen Philips, archdeacon of Salop, was born, December the 13th, 1676, at Bampton, and educated first at Winchester-school, and afterward at Christ-church in Oxford. His friends intended him for the profession of physic, to which he was likewise led by his own inclination; and though he was prevented, by his infirm state of health, from pursuing that study, he ever after retained for it a particular fondness. Having contracted an early acquaintance with the works of Homer and Virgil, as also with those of the celebrated Milton; and having farther observed how very freely as well as judiciously the last author has, in many places, imitated the two former, he resolved himself to follow the same example; and with what signal success he executed his resolution, the works he left behind him will remain an eternal monument. Distinguished no less by the sweetness of his temper and the simplicity of his manners, than by the elegance of his taste and the strength of his genius, he was beloved and esteemed by all his contemporaries; and the lord Bolingbroke, in particular, entertained him for some time in his family, and employed him in writing a poem on the famous battle of Blenheim. His *Splendid Shilling* had appeared a little before; and his poem upon *Cyder* was published soon after. He had likewise laid a plan for writing a poem upon

the resurrection, and the day of judgment; but this he did not live to execute; for he died of a consumption, February the 15th, 1708, in the thirty-second year of his age. His body was interred in the cathedral of Hereford; but a monument was erected to his memory in Westminster abbey.

From Bampton a road extends seven miles to BURFORD, which is seated on the banks of the river Windrush, about seven miles to the west of Whitney, and is the place where Cuthred, king of the West-Saxons, not being able to bear with the cruelty and base exactions of king Ethelbald, gave him battle, and took away his standard, on which was a golden dragon. Hence is supposed to have arisen an ancient custom of the inhabitants of this town carrying yearly an artificial dragon about the town, with great jollity, on Midsummer-Eve. This battle was fought in a field near Burford, still called Battle-edge. Burford had a charter from king Henry the Second, and still retains the appearance of a corporation, it having a common seal, and being governed by two bailiffs and other officers. It has a great market on Saturdays, which is famous for saddles; and on a heath near the town, called the Seven-Downs, there are frequent horse-races. Burford has two fairs, held on the 5th of July, for horses, sheep, cows, and small ware; and on the 25th of September, for cheese and toys. Here was a small priory or hospital dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, which was valued at the dissolution at 13l. 6s. 6d. per annum.

Peter Heylin, an English divine and writer of the seventeenth century, was born, November the 29th, 1600, at Burford, and educated at Hart-hall in Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and divinity. His first attempts as an author,

thor, were in the dramatic way; having wrote, while at college, a tragedy, called *Spurius*, which, though never printed, was so well approved, that it was acted in the apartments of the president of his hall. This piece procured him so high a reputation, that he rose, in a little time, to some considerable preferments in the church; being appointed successively one of the chaplains in ordinary to his majesty, rector of Hemingford in Huntingdonshire, and prebendary of Westminster: but of these, and indeed of all his substance, he was deprived during the civil wars; but after the restoration, he was again re-established in his spiritualities, and advanced, besides, to the sub-deanery of Westminster. He died May the 8th, 1662, and was interred before his own stall, within the choir of the abbey, where a monument was erected to his memory. His works are numerous, but not very valuable. His *Cosmography* is the most esteemed.

Lucius Carey, eldest son of Henry Carey, lord viscount Falkland, was born, as is supposed, at Burford in Oxfordshire, about the year 1610. He received his education in Trinity college in Dublin, and in St. John's college in Cambridge. In his youth he was of a wild disposition, and was even for some exploits thrown into the Fleet. Acquiring, however, in the course of his travels, which he performed under the care of a very eminent tutor, a more solid and sedate turn of mind, he became a most accomplished nobleman; being a complete master of many of the ancient and modern languages; and thoroughly versed in every branch of polite literature. In the beginning of king Charles the First's reign, he adhered to the parliament; but, upon the breaking out of the civil war, he went over to the king's side, being, at that time, a member of the privy-council, and

secretary of state. He attended his majesty at the battle of Edgehill, where, though exposed to some danger, he escaped unhurt. But the first battle of Newbury proved fatal to him. The morning before the action he called for a clean shirt, and being asked the reason of it, answered, "that if he were slain in the engagement, they should not find his body in foul linen." And when dissuaded by his friends, from going into the fight, as having no particular obligation to it, being no military officer, he said; "I am weary of the times, and foresee much misery to my country; but believe that I shall be out of it ere night." His presage, unhappily, was but too fully verified. He was shot in the belly with a musquet-ball, and falling from his horse, his body was not found till next morning. This event happened on the 20th of September, 1643. Never any man who engaged in a party (if adhering to his sovereign can deserve that name) was so much beloved by those of opposite views. He wrote some poems and speeches, with other tracts, which were afterwards published. He likewise assisted the famous Mr. Chillingworth in composing his book *Of the Religion of Protestants*.

CHARLBURY, nine miles north-east of Burford, and between six and seven north-west of Woodstock, had a market, which is now gone to decay, but has four fairs, held on the 1st of January, the second Friday in Lent, and the second Friday after the 12th of May (except it falls on a Friday, and then it is on the Friday following,) for all sorts of cattle, and on the 10th of October, for cheese and cattle of all sorts.

Seven miles to the north by west of Charlbury is CHIPPING-NORTON, which was a place of some note in the time of the Saxons, from whom it received the name of Chipping, on account of its

its having a market, the word Ceapan, from which Chipping is derived, signifying to cheapen; and it was thus named to distinguish it from another town to the south-west of Whitney, called Brise-Norton. In the reign of Edward the First, it sent members to parliament for one session, and for two in that of Edward the Third, but never since. It has a corporation, and is governed by two bailiffs, who are empowered to hold a court, and to judge and determine all actions under the value of 4 l. Here is a handsome church, built after a curious model, within which are many funeral monuments, that have brass plates inscribed with the names of considerable merchants, which is considered as a proof, that it was once a place of great trade. On Chapel-heath near the town are annual horse-races. Chipping-Norton has a market on Wednesdays, and seven fairs, held on the 7th of March, the 6th of May, the last Friday of the same month, the 18th of July, the 4th of September, the 8th of November, and the last Friday in November, for horses, cows, sheep, lambs, leather and cheese.

About three miles to the north of this town are ROLLRICK STONES, an ancient monument consisting of a circle of stones, between thirty and forty paces in diameter. The tallest of these is about seven feet high; to the north of them is a single stone, upwards of nine feet high; and about two furlongs to the eastward are five others, the highest of which is about nine feet in height. The common people here have a ridiculous tradition, that these stones were formerly men, who were metamorphosed by a miracle; the highest of them all, they call the king, because he was to have been king of England, as they pretend, if he had once seen Long Compton, a little town to the eastward. The five standing by themselves they

they maintain, were knights mounted on horse-back, and the rest, the army. It is uncertain by whom these stones were erected, or upon what occasion. Some take them to be sepulchral monuments. Dr. Charleton conjectures, that they were intended for a memorial of the advancement of Rollo, a Danish general, to the kingdom of England, by his army: but others, with greater probability, consider them as the remains of a temple of the Druids, like some other circles of the same kind in Cornwall.

Now we are treating of these ancient monuments, it may be proper to observe, that there are other stones near the barrow at Stanton-Harcourt, called the Devil's Coits, which might be supposed to be an appendage to the former, were they not at too great a distance. They are about eight feet high and seven broad at the base; but upon what account they were erected is uncertain. There is also a stone about half a mile south-west of Enston-church, which tapers from a broad bottom; and by it lie stones of a smaller size. There is likewise another near the road between Burford and Chipping-Norton, probably erected for the same purpose as the two former; and Dr. Plot supposes, that these single stones were deities worshipped by the ancient Britons.

About four miles to the west of the Rolrick Stones are four shire stones, contiguous to each other, and each upon the boundary of the county in which it stands; the several counties of Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Gloucestershire meeting in this spot.

Four miles to the north of Chipping-Norton is HOOK-NORTON, vulgarly called HOGS-NORTON, a village twenty miles north by west of Oxford. It was thought to have been anciently a royal seat, and is remarkable for a great victory obtained

obtained here by the Danes over the English, about the year 914, and it is probable that the barrows in its neighbourhood were cast up at that time. Camden says, that the inhabitants were formerly such clowns and churls, that to be born at Hogs-Norton became a proverb to denote rudeness and ill-breeding. This village has two fairs, held on the 29th of June, and the 28th of November, for horses and cows.

At COLD NORTON, in this neighbourhood, William Fitz-Allen, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Second, built an hospital or priory of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to St. Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Giles, which was dissolved in the eleventh year of king Henry the Seventh.

At BRUERN, a village four miles south-west of Chipping-Norton, was an abbey of Cistercian monks, founded by Nicholas Basset, in the year 1147. It had several other benefactors, whose gifts were confirmed to the monks by king John. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the dissolution its revenues were valued by Dugdale at 134 l. a year.

Nine miles to the north-east of Hook-Norton is BANBURY, which is seated on the river Cherwell, 77 miles north-west of London, 75 east-north-east of Bristol, and 17 north-west of Buckingham. This is a very ancient town, and soon after the conquest, it was strengthened with a castle, built by Alexander, then bishop of Lincoln. It was made a borough in the first year of queen Mary, by whose charter it was governed by a bailiff, twelve aldermen, and twelve burgesses; but in the reign of king James I. it was made a mayor town with twelve aldermen and six capital burgesses; and it had a new charter from king George I. in the year 1718, by which it is now governed by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, six capital burgesses, thirty

thirty assistants, a town-clerk, and a serjeant at mace. The town is pretty large, and its situation very pleasant and commodious, in the midst of rich meadows, whence the inhabitants make excellent cheese. It has a handsome church and two meeting-houses, a free-school, a work-house, and two charity-schools for teaching and cloathing poor children, one for thirty boys, and the other for twenty girls. This town is famous for a particular kind of cakes. In the civil wars a garrison was placed here, or rather in the castle, by the parliament. It was going to be besieged by the king, when hearing that the earl of Essex was at Keynton near Edgehill, he resolved to go and attack him. The battle was fought the next day, but though the victory was doubtful, the king soon after took Banbury castle, in which were eight hundred foot and a troop of horse, half of whom took arms under his banner, and from thence he marched to Oxford. The town has a market on Thursdays, and eight fairs, held on the Thursday after January 17, for horses, cows and sheep; on the first Thursday in Lent, for horses, cows, sheep and fish; on Ascension-Day, Corpus-Christi, June 13, and August 12, for horses, cows and sheep; on the Thursday after October 10, for hogs, cheese and hiring servants, and on the 29th of October, for cheese, hops and cattle.

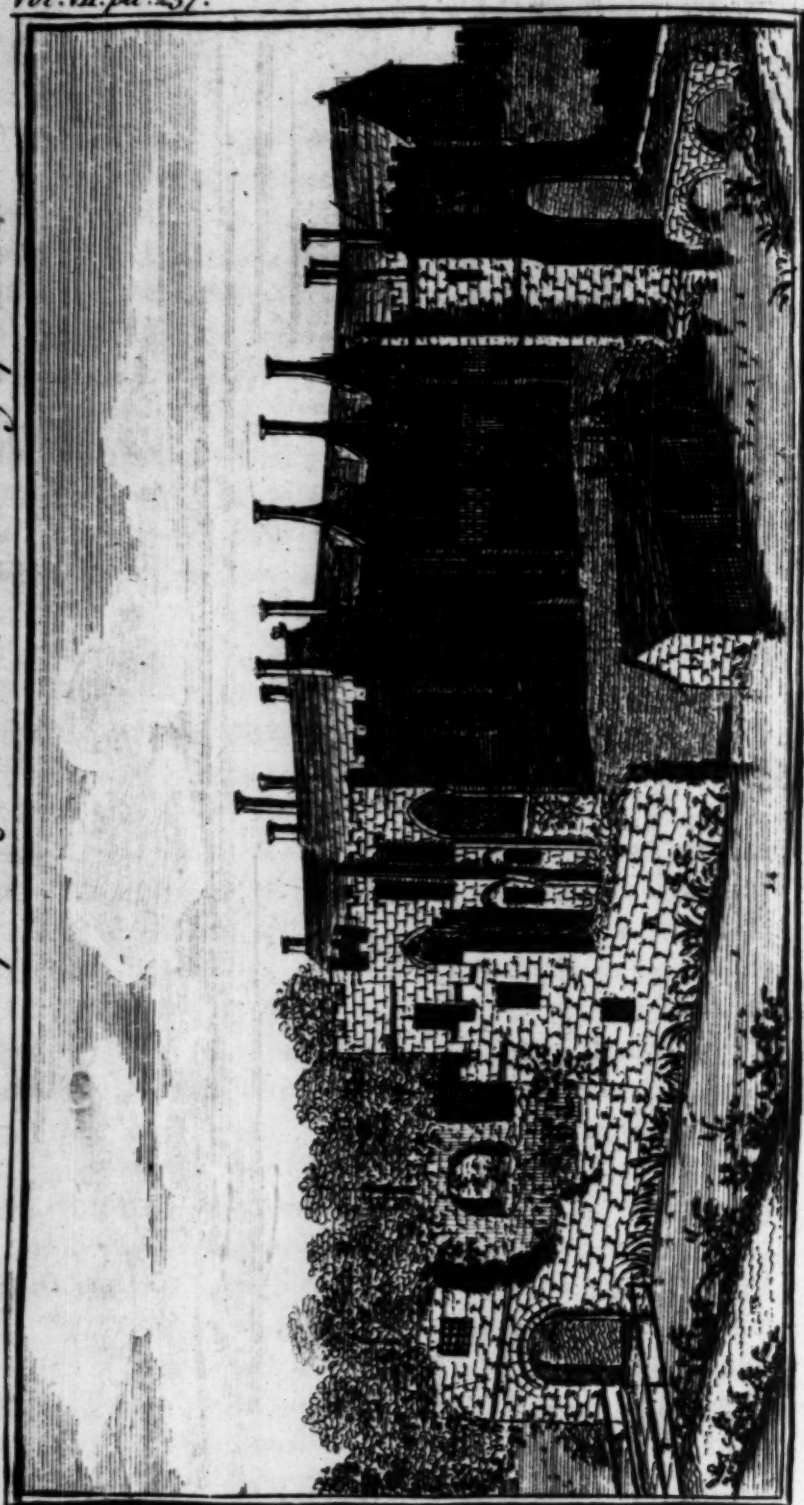
In or near the town of Banbury there was an hospital before the reign of king John, consisting of a prior or master, dedicated to St. John, and several leproous brethren and sisters, whose revenues at the dissolution were valued at 15 l. 1 s. 10 d. a year. Here is also said to have been a college dedicated to St. Mary, which had a revenue, valued at the suppression at 48 l. 6 s. per annum.

Near two miles to the south-west of Banbury is BROUGHTON, a village in which is a castle, that
was



The North East View of Broughton Castle, in the County of Oxford.

Vol. VII. pa. 257.



was the manor-house belonging to the estate of Sir William Wickham, Knt. who gave it in dower, with his daughter Margaret, to Sir William Fiennes, or Fines, lord Say and Sele. He was heir to Sir Thomas Fines, baron Say and Sele, and lord high treasurer of England, who was cruelly beheaded by a rebellious rabble in the reign of king Henry the Sixth. It continued the seat of this family for three hundred years, and afterwards, in the first year of king James the First, the stile and title of baron Say and Sele was confirmed and recognized to Sir Richard Fines, and his heirs. This estate was lately in the possession of colonel Twisselden. This castle is in a very rural situation, and is pretty entire, though the outer walls are much decayed. Of this structure we have, for the sake of the curious reader, given an engraved view.

At WROXTON, a village three miles north-west of Banbury, was a priory of Augustine canons, founded by Michael Belet, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, for the health of the souls of Richard the First, and king John, as also for his own soul, and those of his family. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the suppression had ten religious, whose annual revenues amounted to 78l. 14s. 3d.

Five miles to the north-east of Wroxton, and four miles to the north of Banbury, is CLEYDON, the most northern village in the county, noted for a small spring that rises in the street, on the south side of the village, and continues running all the year, but most plentifully in the driest weather. Here are likewise found the pyritae aureae, or the gold fire-stone, and the yellow asteria, or star-stone. A little to the north-west of this village are three shire-stones standing near each other;

one

one in Oxfordshire, the other in Northamptonshire, and the third in Warwickshire.

At CLATTERCOTE, a village near Cleydon, was a priory of Gilbertine monks, founded in the reign of king John, and dedicated to St. Leonard. Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, gave to this house, at his decease, the patronage of the church of Rothley in Warwickshire. At the suppression it had a prior, and four canons; and according to Dugdale was endowed with 34 l. 19 s. 11 d. a year. It is at present a large, but not a lofty structure, in the possession of the family of the Cartwrights, who have converted it into a dwelling-house.

We shall now return to Banbury, from whence a road extends six miles south to DEDDINGTON, which is situated sixty-two miles north-west of London, and had anciently a corporation. It sent members to parliament in the reigns of Edward the First and Third, but never since; however, it is still a pretty large place, and had formerly a castle. Near it is a medicinal spring, of which we have taken notice in describing the mineral waters of this county. It is governed by a bailiff, and has a charity-school for sixteen boys, and as many girls, with a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, held on the 10th of August, for horses and cows; and on the 22d of November, for horses, cows and swine.

An ancient custom used by young men at marriages, was continued in the parish of Deddington, when Dr. Plot wrote his natural history of the county. The bridegroom set up a post perpendicular to the horizon, and placed across the top of it a slender piece of timber, moveable upon a spindle. At one end of this moveable piece was fastened a board, and at the other a bag of sand. The young men who attended the bride and bridegroom,

groom, being mounted on horseback, with each a staff in his hand, in the manner of a lance, ran at the board, as knights formerly did at each other in tournaments; and he that first broke the board with his staff, in his career, received some honorary prize: but this prize could not be obtained without some danger to the adventurer; for as the cross piece of timber, to one end of which the board was fastened, turned very freely upon its axis, a smart blow upon the board brought the bag of sand, which hung at the other end, round with proportionable violence, from which the rider generally received a smart stroke upon his back, neck, or head, and was sometimes unhorsed, to the great diversion of the spectators.

Sir Thomas Pope, founder of Trinity college in Oxford, was born at this town in the year 1508. He received the first rudiments of learning at the free-school of Banbury in this county, and afterwards at Eton college; but whether he ever studied in either of our universities is uncertain. So early as the twenty-eighth year of his age he obtained the treasurer'ship of the court of augmentations, and was soon after appointed one of the visitors for the dissolution of religious-houses; and in these two offices, though he behaved with great integrity, he yet found means to amass a large fortune. This he afterwards, viz. in 1554, very generously expended in founding Trinity-college in Oxford, and endowing it with a competent revenue for the maintenance of one president, twelve fellows, and twelve scholars; which number has never, from that time to this, been either encreased or diminished. He died at his House in Clerkenwell, London, on the twenty-ninth day of January, 1558, and was buried in the church of St. Stephen's Walbrook.

About three miles to the northward of Deddington is MILTON, a village which had a priory of Black friars, that was a cell to the monastery of Abingdon in Berkshire.

Besides the great men already mentioned, this county has produced many others, among whom are the following :

Michael Drayton, a renowned poet in the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century, was born, as is supposed, in 1563, at Harshull in this county, and educated either at Oxford or Cambridge. His love of poetry, it is said, discovered itself very early ; for even in the tenth year of his age, he expressed, we are told, an extreme anxiety to know, *what strange kind of creatures these poets were* ; and desired his tutor, that, if he could, he would make him, of all things, a poet. At what time, however, he began to distinguish himself by his poetical compositions is difficult to determine : certain it is, that, in 1593, he published a collection of his pastorals ; and before the year 1598 his *Barons Wars*, his *England's Heroical Epistles*, his *Downfall of Robert of Normandy*, his *Matilda*, and his *Gaveston*, made their appearance. Upon the accession of king James the First, he wrote a congratulatory poem to that prince ; though he seems afterwards to have been very little satisfied with the encouragement given by his majesty to the votaries of Apollo ; who, he plainly insinuates, were now much less respected than during the *Muse-nursing Maiden-reign*, as he terms it, of queen Elizabeth. In 1626 we find him stiled, before a copy of his own verses, *Poet-Laureat* ; an appellation, which appears to have been originally given to all eminent poets, and was not confined, as it is at present, to his majesty's servant, known
by

by that title. Besides the works above-mentioned, he wrote *the Battle of Agincourt*; *the Miseries of queen Margaret*, *Nymphidia*, or *the Court of the Fairies*; *the Shepherd's Serena*, &c. and *Poly-Olbion*, his most noted performance. He died in 1631, and was buried in Westminster-abbey.

Dudley Carleton, a younger son of Anthony Carleton of Baldwin-Brightwell in Oxfordshire, Esq; was born at that place on the 10th of March, 1573. After finishing his studies at Oxford, he came up to court, where he soon distinguished himself by his political abilities. He acted as ambassador, first at Venice, then at the Hague, and afterwards at Paris; in all which places he acquitted himself with uncommon prudence. In 1626, he was created, by king Charles the First, baron Carleton of Imbercourt in Surrey; and, about two years after, was advanced to the title of viscount Dorchester. He died the 15th of February, 1632, and was interred in Westminster-abbey. He published several tracts, all of the political kind.

Herbert Croft, an eminent divine, and a venerable prelate of the church of England, in the seventeenth century, was the third son of Sir Herbert Croft, and born at Great Milton in Oxfordshire, October the 18th, 1603. He studied for some time at Christ-Church in Oxford; but his father's embracing the Roman Catholic religion, and becoming a lay brother in the Benedictine monastery of Douay, this youth was carried over thither, and committed to the care of the Jesuits of St. Omer's, who found means to convert him to the church of Rome. Returning, however, to his native country, a little before his father's death, he was happily reconciled to the church of England, took his degrees in the university of Oxford, entered into orders, and obtained the rectory

rectory of Harding in Oxfordshire. During the civil wars he adhered to his sovereign with such inviolable fidelity, that his life was, by that means, more than once brought into danger. By the successive deaths of his elder brothers, he became possessed of the estate of the family; and, in about a twelvemonth after the restoration, was promoted to the bishopric of Hereford. His majesty would afterwards have given him a richer see; but so great was his moderation, that he refused to accept it. He expired in his palace at Hereford, May the 18th, 1691, and was interred in the cathedral of that city. He wrote a book, intitled, *the Naked Truth*, which made a good deal of noise. The design of it was to reconcile protestants of every denomination. He likewise published several sermons and other treatises.

John Wilmot, the wicked and witty earl of Rochester, was the son of Henry, earl of Rochester, and born in April, 1648, at Ditchley near Woodstock in this county. Having finished his education at Wadham-college, Oxford, he travelled into France and Italy; and returning to England, the court of which was at that time extremely licentious and corrupt, he immediately became a debauchee in his manners, and an atheist in his principles. He served, it is said, in two naval expeditions, and acquitted himself in both with a considerable degree of spirit; but he afterwards forfeited his character for courage in a quarrel which he had with the earl of Mulgrave. His whole life, it is affirmed, was one continued scene of riot and debauchery. He told Dr. Burnet, that, for five years together, he was perpetually drunk; not, indeed, all that time, under the visible effects of liquor, but never so cool as to be master of himself. The love of pleasure, and a propensity to mirth, seem to have been his two ruling passions.

The

The one immersed him in great sensuality; the other led him to many odd frolics and adventures. Once, it is said, he disguised himself so, that his nearest friends could not have known him, and setting up in Tower-street for an Italian mountebank, he there practised physic for several weeks. At other times he would metamorphose himself into a porter or a beggar, in order to pursue some low amour, or for the like mean purpose. At length, by a constant indulgence in women and wine, and his irregular manner of living, he entirely wore out an excellent constitution, before he had completed his thirtieth year. He was attended on his death-bed by Dr. Burnet, who has given an account of his life; and who says, that he died a good christian and a most sincere penitent. He expired July the 26th, 1680, and was interred near his father in Spilsbury church in Oxfordshire. His works are too well known. Mr. Walpole says, that they have more obscenity than wit, more wit than poetry, more poetry than politeness.



PEMBROKESHIRE.

THIS county takes its name from Pembroke its principal town. It is seated on the south-west extremity of Wales, and is bounded on all sides by the sea, except on the east, where it joins to Caernarvonshire and Cardiganhire; it being washed on the south by Bristol channel, and on the west and north by St. George's channel, or the Irish sea. It extends upwards of thirty miles in length, and above twenty-two in breadth, and is about a hundred and twenty miles in circumference.

The coast of this county projecting into the sea, forms a great number of promontories and spacious bays, some of which are hardly to be equalled, for the advantages they are capable of procuring by navigation. There are also several islands on the coast. Pembrokeshire affords many monuments of the ancient Britons, which will be hereafter mentioned, and likewise some ancient tumuli, or artificial mounts, in which urns have been buried. The most remarkable are those called Krigu-Kemaes, or the barrows of Kemaes. One of these being opened, there were found in it five urns, which contained a considerable quantity of burnt bones and ashes: the urns are very rough, and not curiously wrought, whence they might be suspected not to be Roman; but it should be remembered, that there might be unskilful artists among that people as well as among others, especially in such a remote province. Another urn
was

was found in a barrow, in the parish of Melinu, and after that another on a mountain, not far from Kil Rhedyn.

A considerable tract of Pembrokeshire, consisting of the county, which lies west of Milford-Haven, and between that bay and St. George's channel, is called by the Welch Rhos, which signifies a green field. In this district a colony of Flemings, settled by the permission of Henry the First, at the time when the sea had broke through the dykes of their own country, and had done incredible damage. This district was, in Camden's time, called Little England, beyond Wales; and Giraldus, speaking of the Flemish settled here, says, they are a stout resolute nation, very offensive to the Welch by their frequent skirmishes; and observes, that they were much inured to the cloathing trade, and to merchandize, and ready to increase their stock by any labour and hazard, both by sea and land. The Fleming's way, or road, a work performed by them, may be still seen extended through a long tract of ground. The Welch, who were not well pleased with this colony, frequently attempted to drive them out, by ravaging and spoiling their borders, but without success. The annotator upon Camden informs us, that all Wales, with their united force, have several times invaded their country, but the Flemings maintained their ground, and Rhos is still inhabited by their descendants, who may still be distinguished by their speech and customs.

The principal rivers of Pembrokeshire are, the Teivy, the Clethy, and the Dougledye. The Teivy rises in Caermarthenshire, and running south-west, separates Cardiganshire from Caermarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, and falls into the Irish sea, by the most northern extremity of

this county; but this river washes only a small part of Pembrokeſhire.

The Clethy riſes at the foot of a hill in this county, called Vrennybawr, ſome miles ſouth-eaſt of Newport, and running ſouth, falls into the mouth of the Dougledye, near its conflux with the bay of the ſea, called by the Engliſh Milford-Haven, but by the Welch Aber-dau Gledheu, or the Haven with two ſwords.

The name of Dougledye is a corruption of the original Britiſh words Dau Gledheu, or two ſwords. This river riſes to the ſouth of Fiſgard, and running ſouth-eaſt and ſouth, paſſes by Haverford-Weſt, and falls with the river Clethy into Milford Haven.

The leſs conſiderable rivers are the Gwaine, the Biran, the Kiog, the Nevern, and the Radford.

The air of Pembrokeſhire is eſteemed very ſalubrious, and the ſoil is fertile, for here are but few mountains, and theſe, which are chiefly ſeated in the north-eaſt part of the county, yield good paſture for cattle and ſheep: towards the ſea-coaſt, the land extends into rich meadows and corn-fields. The country abounds with horned cattle, ſheep, goats, and wild fowl of various kinds, ſome of which are ſeldom ſeen in any other part of Britain. Theſe are migratory ſea-birds, that breed in the iſle of Ramſey, and the adjoining rocks, called the Biſhop and his Clerks. Thither yearly reſort, about the beginning of April, ſuch flocks of birds of ſeveral forts, as appear incredible to thoſe who have not ſeen them. They come to theſe rocks in the night-time, and leave them alſo in the night; for in the evening the rocks ſhall be covered with them, and the next morning not a bird is to be ſeen. In the ſame manner not a ſingle bird ſhall appear in the evening, and the next morning,

morning, the rocks shall be covered with them. They also commonly make a visit about Christmas, staying a week or longer, and then take their leave till breeding-time. Among these birds are the eligug, razor-bill, puffing and harry-bird. The eligug lays but one egg, which, as well as those of the puffin and razor-bill, is as big as a duck's, but longer and smaller at one end. She never leaves this egg till it is hatched, nor then till the young one is able to follow her, and she is all this time fed by the male. This and the razor-bill, breed upon the bare rocks, without any sort of nest. The puffin and the harry-bird breed in holes, and commonly in those of the rabbits; but sometimes they dig holes with their beaks. The harry-birds are never seen on land, but when taken. All the four kinds cannot raise themselves to fly away when they are on land, and therefore they creep or waddle to the cliffs, and throwing themselves off, take wing. The eligug is the same bird, which they call in Cornwall a Kid-daw, and in Yorkshire a Skout. The razor-bill is the merre of Cornwall. The puffin is the artick duck of Clusius, and the harry-bird the shire-water of Sir Thomas Brown.

The sea-sand in several parts on the coast of this county, having been formerly washed away at different times, by a long continuance of stormy weather, discovered very large trees, some of which having been felled, lay at full length, while the trunks of others stood upright in the places where they grew. These trees lay so thick, and in such numbers, that the shore, for a considerable space, appeared like a forest cut down. On these trees were as plainly the marks of the axe, as if they had been but just felled; but the wood was become as hard and black as ebony. Hence it appears, that great part of the coast of this county was ancient-

ly a forest, upon which the sea broke in, and at length covered it with sand.

We find no account of the vegetable productions that grow wild in this county, except that near St. David's, they gather in the spring a kind of alga, or sea-weed, of which they make a sort of food, called in Welch *Lhavan*, and in English *Black Butter*. Having washed it clean, they lay it to sweat between two flat stones, then shred it small, and knead it well, like dough for bread, and afterwards make it up into great balls or rolls, which some eat raw, and others fry with oat-meal and butter. It is accounted excellent against all distempers of the liver and spleen, and some affirm, that they have been relieved by it in the sharpest fits of the stone.

This county is divided into seven hundreds, and contains the city of St. David's, and the seven following market towns, *Fisgard*, *Haverford-west*, *Killgarring*, *Newport*, *Pembroke*, *Tenby*, and *Whiston*. It lies in the province of *Canterbury*, and the diocese of St. David's, and has a hundred and forty-five parishes. It sends three members to parliament, one knight of the shire for the county, one representative for the borough of *Pembroke*, and another for the borough of *Haverford-west*.

On entering the south-east part of this county from *Caermarthenshire*, a road extends south-west by south to *TENBY*, or *TENBIGH*, which is seated on the sea-shore, and has a good harbour for ships, at the distance of two hundred and eight miles from London. It was formerly fortified with strong walls and a castle, but they are now both decayed. The ruins of the castle are still remaining, and within its view are the isles of *Caldy* and *Lundy*, which are seated to the south-west. This
structure

structure was well situated for the defence of the town and the bay. It was built by the Normans, and was taken by Rhys ap Gruffydh, prince of South Wales, in the year 1152, after which it was frequently contended for by the princes of Wales. The town is governed by a mayor and bailiff, and, except Pembroke, is the most agreeable of all the towns on the sea-coast of South-Wales. Besides its having a good road for shipping, it has a commodious quay, a large fishery of herrings, and carries on a considerable trade to Ireland, particularly in coals; for the inhabitants ship off yearly from hence seven or eight thousand chaldrons of coal and culm, and the coast of the bay abounds in iron stone. This town was anciently noted for a fishery on a bank called Will's Mark, in Bristol channel; but upon the inhabitants growing rich, they forgot the old marks of their fishing-bank, and thus lost the fishery; and though some attempts have been made to find it again, it has been without effect. It has a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and five fairs, held on Whitsun-Tuesday, the 4th of May, the 20th of July, the 20th of October, and the 4th of December, for horned-cattle, horses and sheep. Tenby had an hospital or lazer-house, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and endowed at the suppression with 2 l. a year.

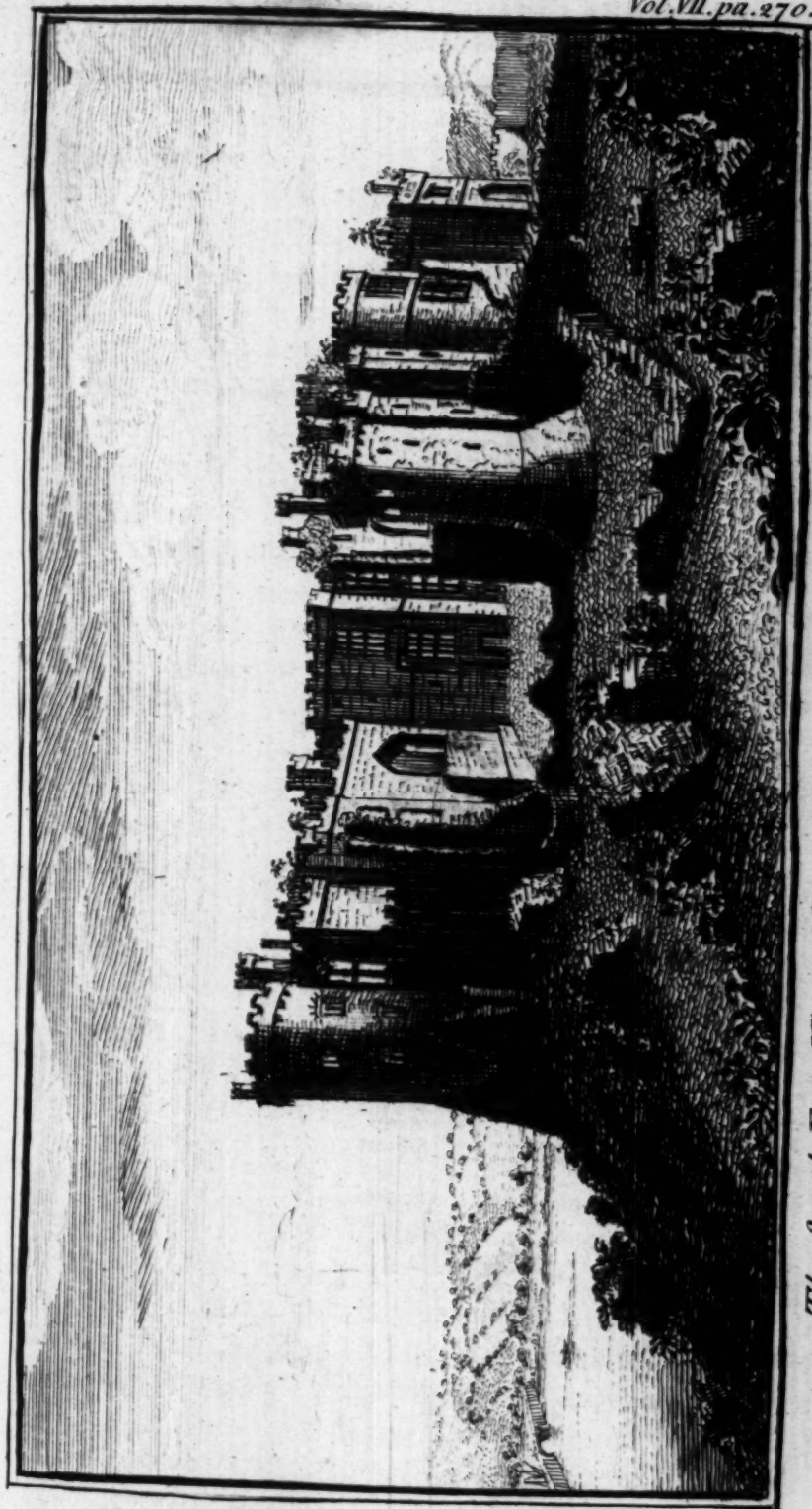
The island of CALDEY, called by the Welch Inispir, is pretty near the shore, and the north part of it is about two miles south-west of Tenby. On this little island the mother of Robert Fitz-Martin founded a priory, subordinate to the abbey of St. Dogmael, which was valued at the dissolution at 5 l. 10 s. 11 d. a year.

Over against this island, and at a greater distance from the shore, is the Isle of LUNDY. This, says Dr. Gibson, is the larger of the two,

and yet not much above two miles long and a mile broad. It is encompassed with rocks, and has only one entrance, which is so strait, that two men can hardly walk a-breast. It is full of good pasture, and has a great number of rabbits. Pigeons and sterlings flock thither in prodigious numbers to breed.

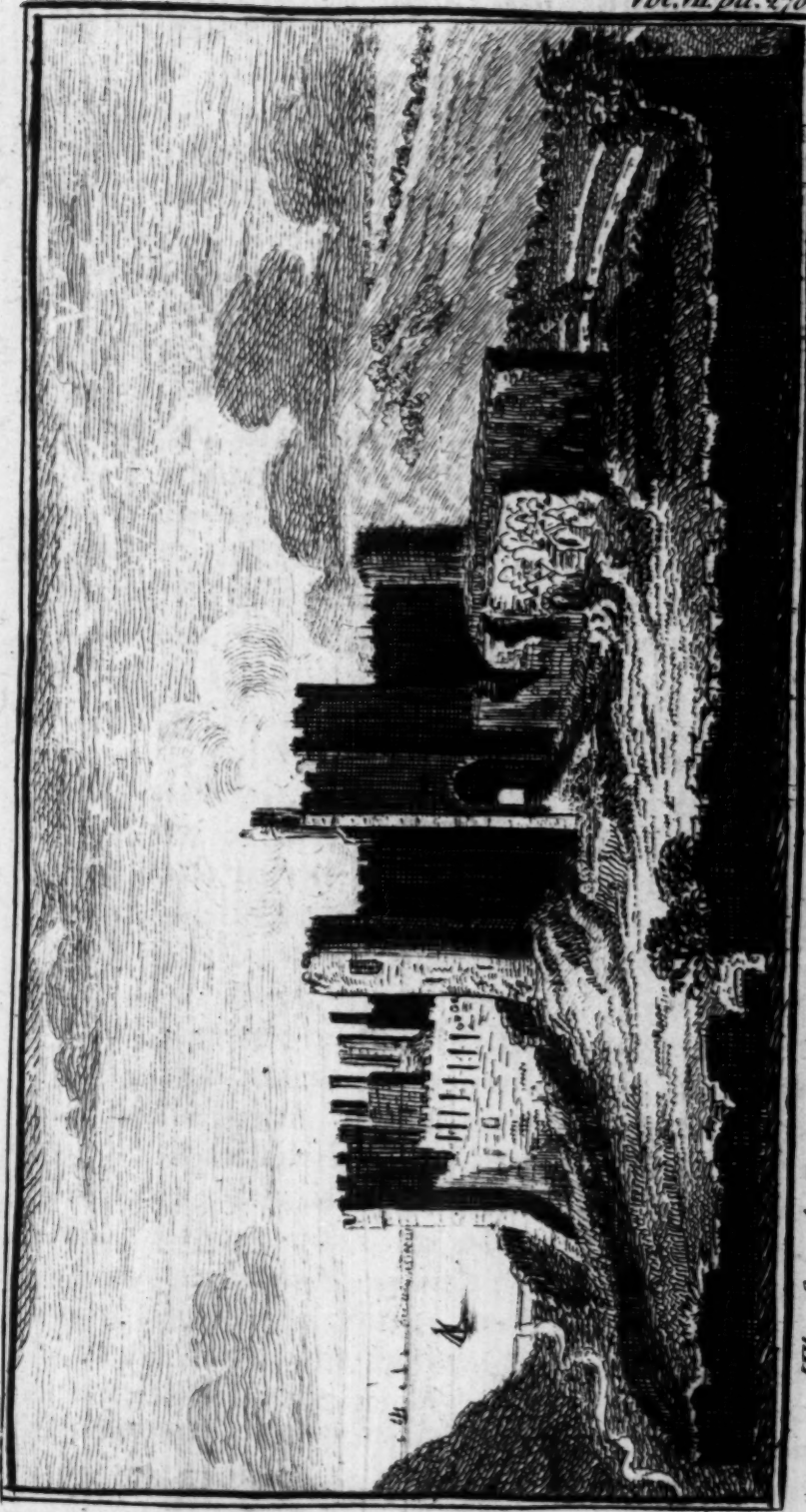
Four miles to the westward of Tenby is MAN-NORBEER castle, which is seated on Bristol channel, and is generally supposed to have been built by the Normans, in the reign of William Rufus. It was held by the crown from the time of king Henry the First, to the reign of king James the First, who, by a grant, which was afterwards confirmed by his son king Charles the First, gave it to the Bowens of Trelloyne, from whom it descended by marriage to the Phillippses. Of this castle we have given an engraved view.

Six miles west of Tenby is CAREW castle, which formerly belonged to the barony of Carew, which, with this castle, was given as a portion in marriage with Nesta, the daughter of Rees, prince of South Wales, to Gerald de Carrio, whose descendants, by the name of Carew, enjoyed it for several generations, till Sir Edmund Carew mortgaged it to Sir Rice ap Thomas, and afterwards it was forfeited to Henry the Eighth, by whom the barony and castle were granted by leases for terms of year, to Sir John Perrot, and several others. The remainder of these terms were purchased by Sir John Carew, kinsman and heir of the above Sir Edmund, to whom king Charles the First restored the fee-simple and inheritance, and from whom it descended to its present possessor of the same family. It stands near an arm of Milford-Haven, and most of the walls being pretty entire, the engraved view we have given of it, will shew that it was not only a very strong, but
a beautiful



The South East View of Carew Castle, in the County of Pembroke.





The South-East View of Manninorbeer Castle, in the County of Pembroke.

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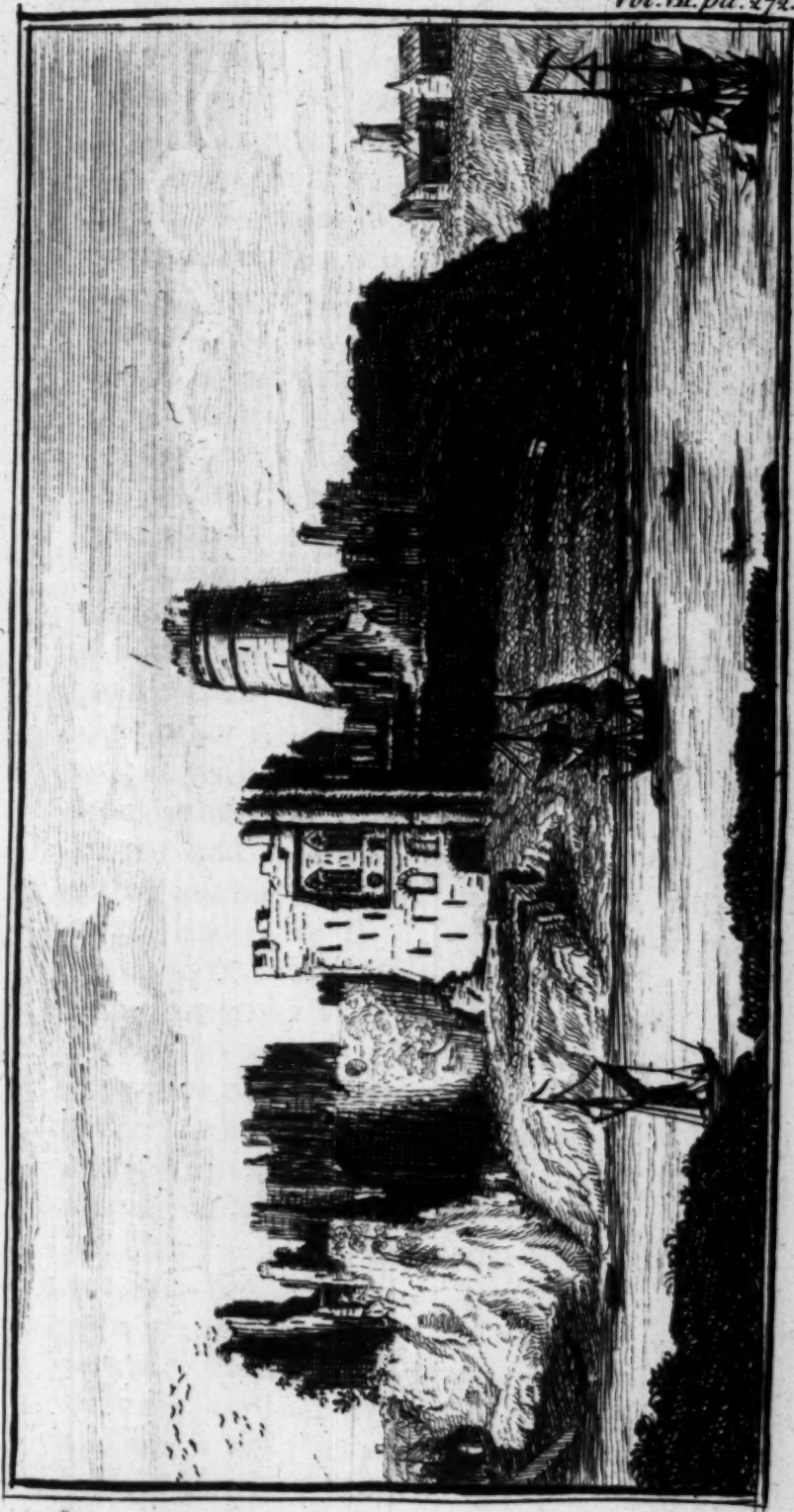


a beautiful castle, considering the time in which it was built.

Nine miles to the west of Tenby is P E M B R O K E, which stands upon a creek of Milford-Haven, in the most pleasant part of all Wales, two hundred and seventeen miles west by north of London. It derives its name from the ancient British word Penvro, a cape or promontory. It is the county town, and has two handsome bridges, over two small rivers that run into a creek, which forms the west side of the promontory. It is well inhabited, and has many good houses, and three parish churches, St. Michael's, St. Mary's, and St. Nicholas's. Here is also a custom-house. Among the inhabitants are several merchants, who, favoured by the situation of the place, employ near two hundred sail on their own account, so that, next to Caermarthen, it is the largest and richest town in South-Wales. It has one long strait street, upon a narrow part of a rock, and the above-mentioned rivers seem to be two arms of Milford-Haven, which ebbs and flows close to the town. It is governed by a mayor, bailiff, and burgeses, and was anciently fortified with walls and a magnificent castle, first built by Arnulph de Montgomery, brother to the earl of Shrewsbury, in the reign of king Henry the First. It is seated on a beautiful rock, at the west end of the town. In this rock under the chapel is a vault called Wogan, remarkable for a very fine echo: this is supposed to have been a store room for the garrison, there being a stair-case leading into it from the castle. This structure being burnt a few years after it was erected, it was rebuilt by Owen, the son of Cadogan of Blethim. It is remarkable for being the birth-place of Henry the Seventh, and for the brave defence made by the garrison for king Charles the First. For the

satisfaction of the curious reader, we have given a view of this structure in its present state. The church of St. Nicholas at the west end of the town, beyond the castle, is no more than a part of the church formerly belonging to a Benedictine priory, called St. Nicholas of Monkton, which was founded in the year 1098, by Arnulph de Montgomery, earl of Pembroke, and given to the abbey of St. Martin of Sayes in Normandy. This being a cell to a foreign abbey was seized by king Edward the Third during his wars with France. King Henry the Third restored it. Afterwards it was seized again, and given by king Henry the Sixth to Humphry, duke of Gloucester, who made it a cell to the abbey of St. Alban's. Pembroke has given the title of earl to the several noble families of Montgomery de Clare, Marshal de Valence, and Hastings. John, duke of Bedford, and Humphry, duke of Gloucester, both sons of king Henry the Third, were earls of Pembroke. William de la Pole, duke of Suffolk, was marquis of this place. Jasper of Hatfield, half brother to king Henry the Sixth, was earl of Pembroke, and after him two of the family of Herbert. Then Edward, prince of Wales, son to king Edward the Third. Anna Boleyn (afterwards king Henry the Eighth's queen) was marchioness of Pembroke. And lastly, king Edward the Sixth conferred this earldom on the Herberts, who still enjoy it. Near this town was an hospital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, which was valued at the suppression at only 1 l. 6 s. 8 d. per annum. Pembroke sends only one member to parliament, and has a good market on Saturdays, with four fairs, held on the 14th of May, Trinity-Monday, the 10th of July, and the 25th of September, for horned cattle, horses, sheep and cloth.

Near



A View of Pembroke Castle.



Near Stackpoole Bosher, upon the sea-coast, not far from Pembroke, is a pool of water called BOSHERSTON-Meer, so deep, that it could never be sounded, yet before a storm, it is said to bubble, foam, and make a noise so loud as to be heard at several miles distance. The banks are of no great circumference at the top; but broader downwards, and at a considerable depth, is a great breach towards the sea, which is about a furlong distant, and it is supposed to have a subterraneous communication with it.

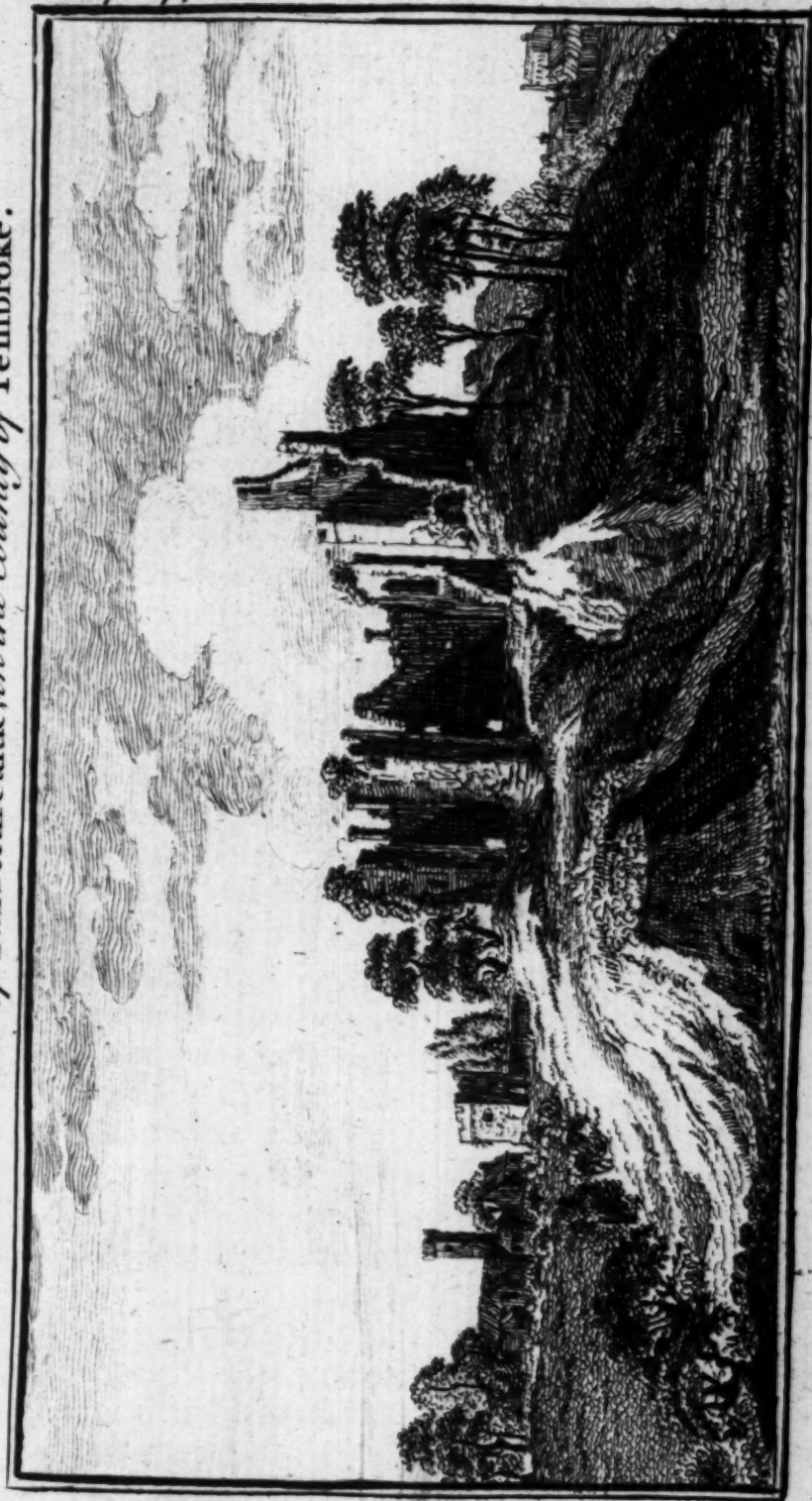
MILFORD-HAVEN is universally allowed to be the best harbour in Great-Britain, and as safe and spacious as any in Europe. It has sixteen deep and safe creeks, five bays, and thirteen roads, all distinguished by their several names, in which it is said, that a thousand sail of ships may ride in perfect security, and at a sufficient distance from each other: nor is there any danger in sailing in or out with the tide, either by day or by night, from whatever point the wind may happen to blow; and if a ship in distress comes in without either anchor or cable, she may run ashore on soft ooze, and there lie safe till she is refitted. The spring-tide rises in this harbour thirty-six feet; so that ships may at any time be laid ashore. Dale harbour is a ready out-let for small vessels, where they may ride in two or three fathoms at low water. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, before the Spanish invasion, two forts were begun at the entrance of Milford-Haven, one on each side, called Nangle, and Dale block-houses, but they were not then finished. The Stack-rock rises here above water, lying near the middle of the entrance between Nangle and Dale. Penermouth is the opening of that branch of the haven, on which the town of Pembroke is seated, and where the custom-house of Milford is kept. The breadth of

the entrance between rock and rock is but two hundred yards at high water, and a hundred and twelve at low water. There is a ridge of rocky ground that has the name of Carrs, which runs almost across Milford-Haven, from Peter-church towards Llanstadwell, where it renders the landing-place difficult to strangers, from its not appearing at low-water. Nayland is the place where they bring woollen yarn from Ireland, and there salt is also refined and conveyed from thence over the whole country. Laureny is the place where large ships take in coal and culm, which are brought in barges from Creswell at low-water. Veins of copper-ore have been observed in the sea-cliffs, some of which of the grey and purple kind, are very rich; there are also some yellow and sulphureous, but none of them were ever properly wrought. The great plenty of lime-stone about this haven, gives the inhabitants an opportunity of improving the ground, and rendering the land more fruitful than in the other parts of the county. The great excellency and utility of this harbour is, that in an hour's time a ship may be in or out of it, and in the way between the Land's-end and Ireland. As it lies near the mouth of the Severn, a ship, in eight or ten hours, may be over on the coast of Ireland, or off the Land's-end in the English-channel; and a vessel may get out of this place to the west, much sooner than from either Plymouth or Falmouth. This harbour has been greatly improved by new works at the expence of the government.

We shall now return back to the edge of the county where we first entered it; when returning west by north, we come to NARBERTH, a town seated on the eastern side of the county, six miles to the northward of Tenby, in the road to Haverford-West. It is built on the top of a hill,
two

The South View of Narberth Castle, in the County of Pembroke.

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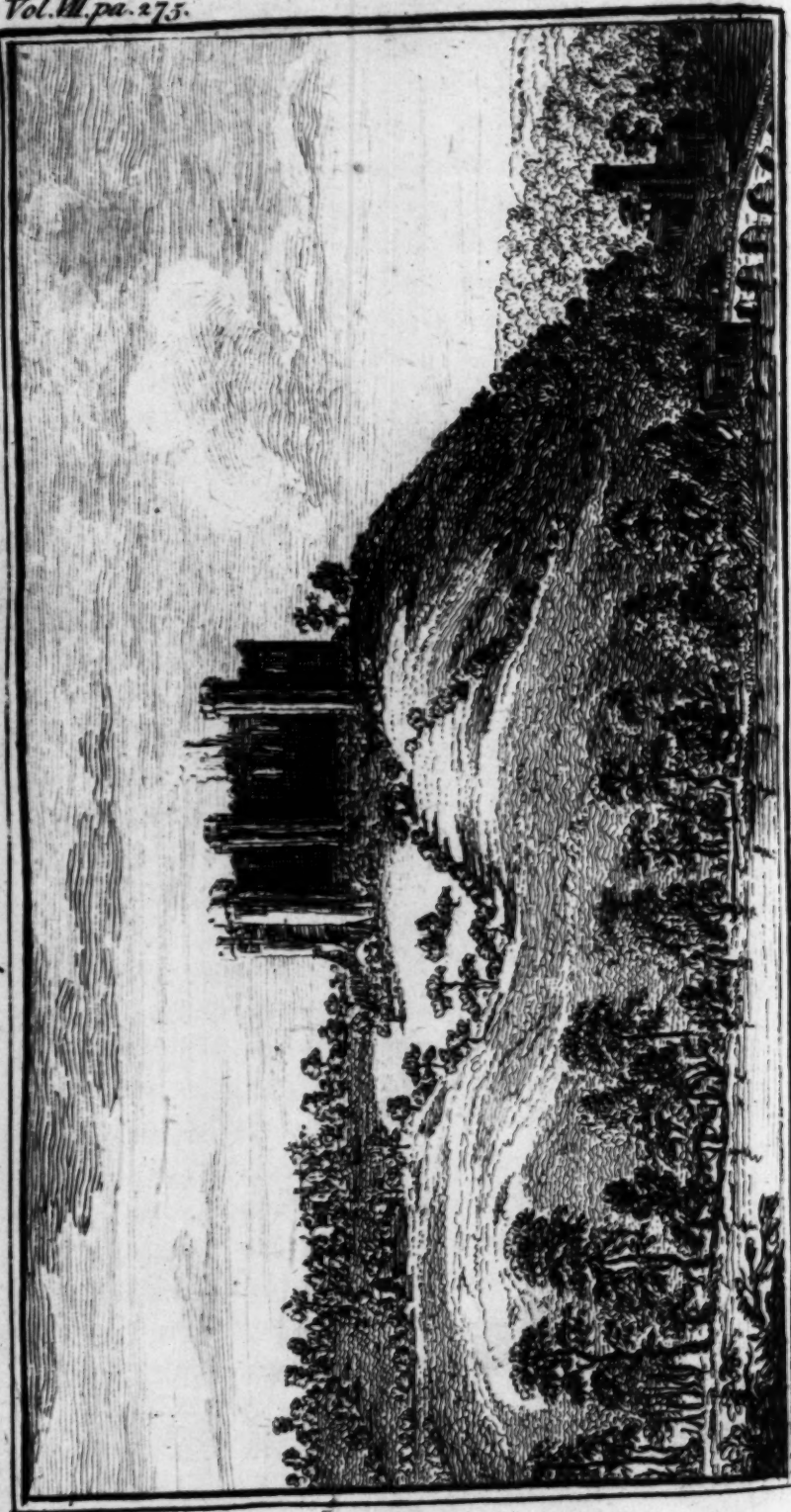






The South East View of Lleghaiden Castle in the County of Pembroke

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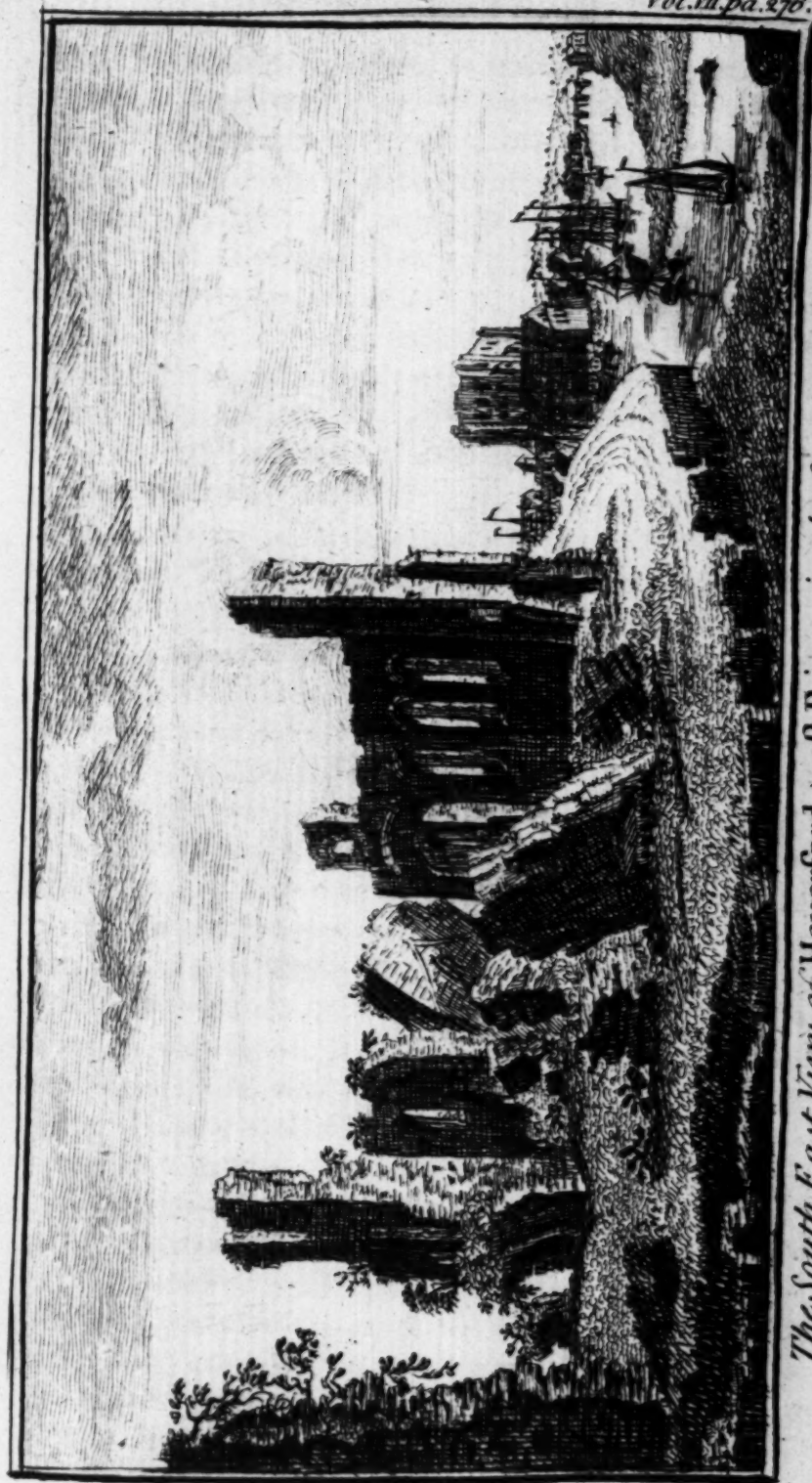
two hundred and nine miles west by north of London, and has a market on Wednesdays, and five fairs, held on the 21st of March, the 4th of June, the 5th of July, the 26th of September, and the 11th of December, for horned cattle, horses and sheep. This town had a castle, said to have been built by Sir Andrew Perrot, whose ancestor left Normandy with William the Conqueror. Of the remains of this structure we have given a view.

Four miles to the north-west of Narberth is the castle of LLEHAIDEN, which is seated on an eminence, and was the principal seat of the bishop of St. David's, who from this castle takes his barony. About the year 1514, Edward Vaughan, bishop of St. David's, repaired it, and built a chapel in it; but in the year 1616, bishop Richard Milbourn, procured a licence from the archbishop of Canterbury to demolish it; the lead and a great part of the other materials having been sold by some of his predecessors. However, great part of the walls are still standing, and may continue for ages in their present condition; and of these we have given an engraved view.

Seven miles to the north-westward of Narberth is WHISTON, or WISTON, a town governed by a mayor and bailiffs, but is a mean place. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 8th of November, for horses, horned cattle and sheep.

HAVERFORD-WEST, called by the Welch Hwlfordh, is seated four miles and a half south-west of Whiston, and nine miles west of Narberth, on the side of a hill which forms part of the west bank of the river Dougledye, and is a neat, well built, populous place, governed by a mayor, a sheriff, a town-clerk, two bailiffs, sergeants at mace, and other officers, and sends one member to parliament. The town is a county of

itself, and the mayor is coroner, escheator, and clerk of the markets within its precincts. It was formerly fortified with a rampart and a castle, supposed to have been built by Gilbert, earl of Clare: this castle had an outer gate, with two portcullises, and an inward gate: the walls were fortified with several towers, and it was one of those possessed by the Flemings, when they first came into Dyvet, or Pembrokeshire; but the fortifications were demolished in the civil wars under Charles the First. Here was also a priory of Black canons, founded by Robert de Haverford, who gave to it several churches and tythes in his barony of Haverford, all which king Edward the Third confirmed to them. About seventy years ago an effigy was dug up, which seemed to represent a bishop, and is supposed to be that of David Cherbury, bishop of Dromore in Ireland, and archdeacon of Brecknock, who, by his last will, dated the 9th of November, 1426, ordered that he should be interred here, and left a legacy towards rebuilding the cloysters of this priory. Of this priory, together with the above castle, we have given an engraved view. Without the town was a house of Black friars. The houses are well built and well inhabited, and the people enjoy a good trade. Here the assizes are held, and the county-jail kept. The town enjoys several privileges, and has its own courts. There are three parish churches within the town, and one in the suburbs. St. Mary's church in the town is a very neat building, with a curious spire. Here is also a commodious quay for ships of burthen, a custom-house, and a fine stone bridge over the Dougledye, with a good free-school, a charity-school for boys and girls, and an alms-house. It is a rich trading place, and the town and neighbourhood abound with gentry, who render it one of the politest



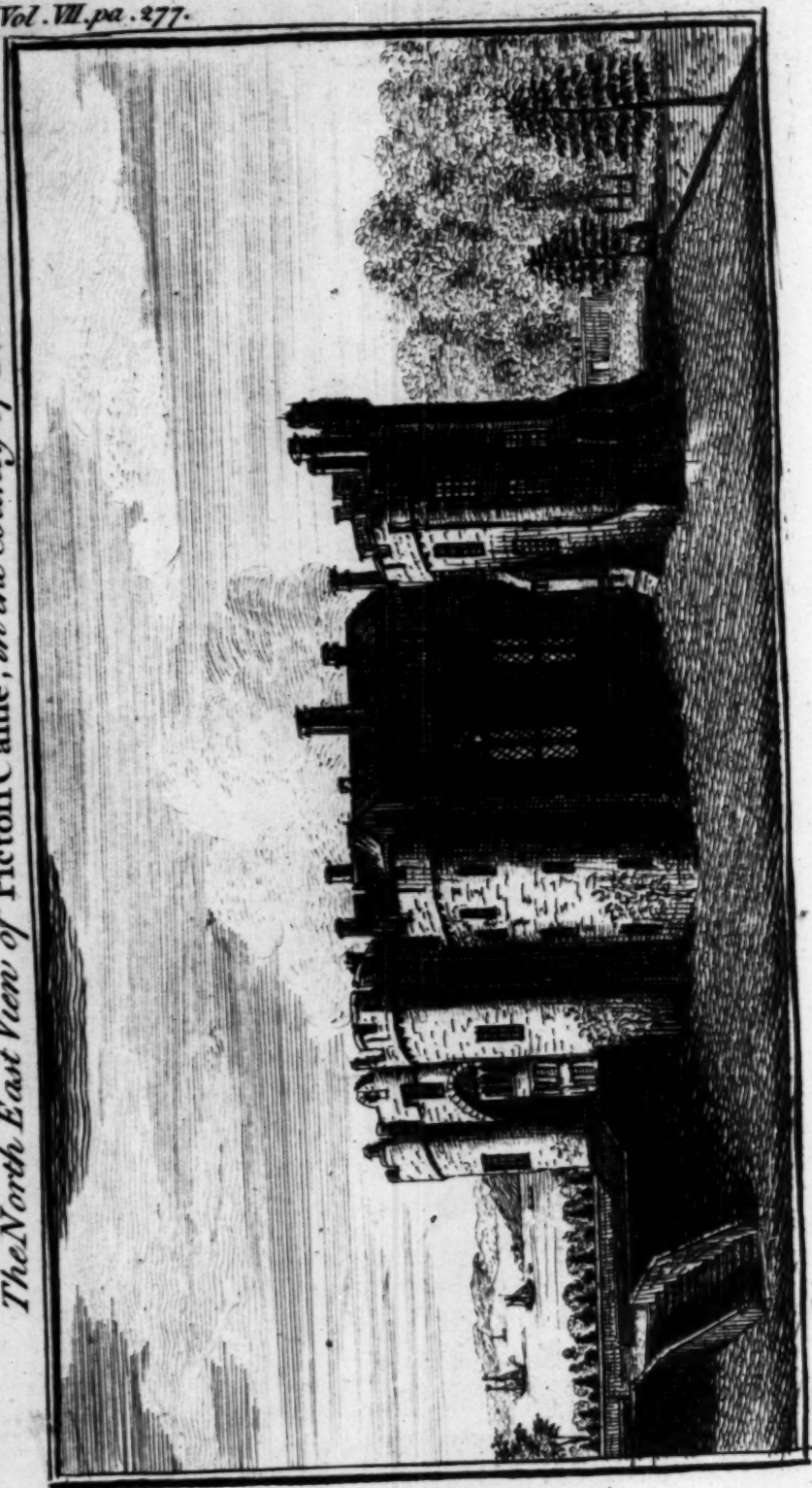
The South East View of Haverford west Priory. in the County of Pembroke





The North East View of Picton Castle, in the County of Pembroke.

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littest places in Wales. It has a market on Tuesdays and Saturdays, for cattle and provisions, and six fairs, held on May 12, June 12, July 18, September 4, September 24, and October 18, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, &c.

At SLEBECH, north-east of Haverford-West, Wize, and Walter his son, founded a preceptory of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, before the year 1301, which at the dissolution was endowed with the annual revenue of 211 l. 9 s. 11 d.

Three miles south-east of Haverford-West is PICTON-castle, which is very ancient, and was built in the time of William Rufus, by William de Picton, a Norman knight. For want of issue male, it descended from the Pictons to the Wogans, then to the Dones, and lastly to the Philippses of Kylfant, in whose family it continued eight generations, and was lately the mansion-house of Erasmus Philips, Bart. It is remarkable that this castle continues entire, and has been always inhabited, though most of the other castles in Wales have been demolished. It was garrisoned by Sir Richard Philips, for king Charles the First in the civil wars, and held out a long siege. It is a very strong, handsome structure, considering the time in which it was erected, as appears from the engraved view we have given of it.

To the south of Haverford-West, and on the north side of Milford-Haven, is PYLLOS, where Adam de Rupe, about the year 1200, founded a priory, and placed in it monks of the order of Tyron; but in time these monks forsook the strict discipline enjoined them by their founder, and became common Benedictines. This house was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Budoc, and is said to have been subordinate to the abbey of St. Dogmael. At the dissolution its annual revenues amounted to 67 l. 15 s. 3 d.

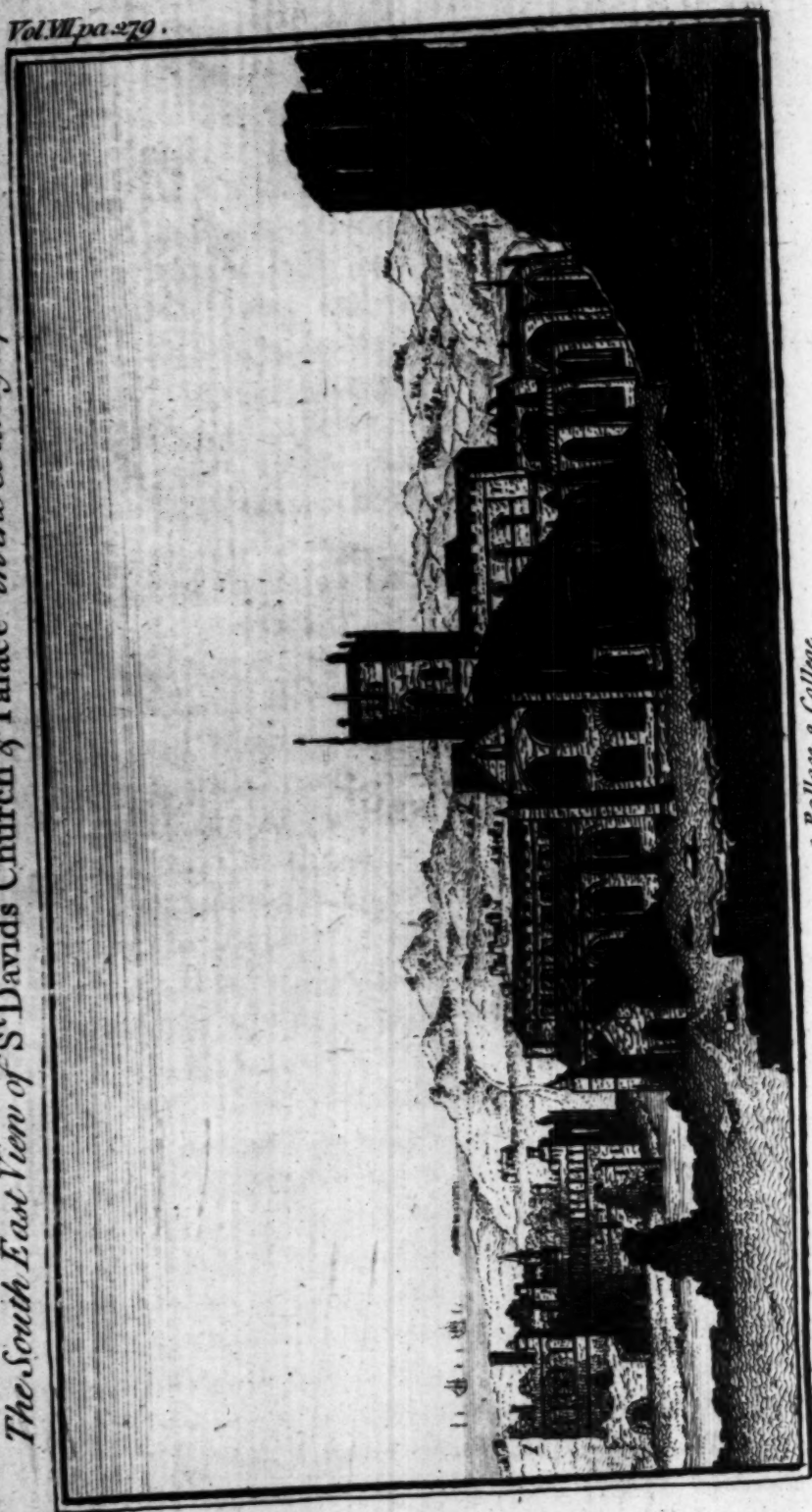
From

From hence a road extends south-west and west fourteen miles to ST. DAVID's, which has the title of a city, on account of its being the see of a bishop, though it is only a poor village. It is situated about a mile from the extremity of a large naked promontory, which projects with a very high front into the Irish sea. It is supposed to have been a Roman town, and the Octapitarum mentioned by Ptolemy, after which it obtained the name of Menevia. Here St. Patrick is said to have founded a monastery, and to have dedicated it to St. Andrew, about the year 470. Hither St. David translated the archbishopric of Wales from Caerleon, about the year 577, and here he built a cathedral, and became its first archbishop. After his death it was dedicated to him, and the city also took his name. This see enjoyed the archbishopric till about the year 930, when archbishop Sampson withdrawing from his province on account of a pestilential disease which then raged here, carried the pall with him to Dole in Brittany: yet after this the archbishops of this see are said to have consecrated the Welch bishops, and to have been primates of Wales, till the reign of king Henry the First, when Bernard, a Norman being made archbishop, professed subjection to the archbishop of Canterbury, as his metropolitan. At the suppression this bishopric was valued at 426 l. 2 s. 1 d. per annum. The cathedral and palace were seated within a mile of the sea, and within view (in clear weather) of the Irish hills. They are inclosed with a wall of stone one thousand one hundred yards in circumference. In this close stand the cathedral, the palace, and the houses of the dignitaries, some of which are habitable, and others in ruins. The entrance is by four gates, the principal of which leads from the town. In this gate the bishops formerly held their courts. The
old



The South East View of S^t Davids Church & Palace in the County of Pembroke

Vol. VII. pa. 279.



1 Palace. 2 College

old church was taken down, and the present cathedral (dedicated to St. Andrew and St. David) was begun by bishop Peter de Lein in 1180, and compleated by his successors. It is a venerable structure three hundred feet in length; the distance from the west door to the entrance of the choir is a hundred and twenty-four feet; from the choir to the altar is eighty feet; the breadth of the body of the side isles is seventy-two feet, that of the west front is seventy-six feet, and the length of the great cross-isle, from north to south, is a hundred and thirty feet; the height of the middle isle to the vaulting is fifty-four feet; and over the middle of the church is a tower a hundred and twenty-seven feet high. The west end of the church is in tolerable repair, but the east end has suffered greatly from time and neglect, the roof having fallen in. The bishop's palace is now a large magnificent piece of ruins, of which only the walls are standing. It was built by bishop Henry Gower, about the year 1335, and had a hall eighty-eight feet long and thirty broad, with another fifty-eight feet long and twenty-three broad, and the apartments were proportionably grand and noble. Of the remains of this church and palace, we have given a view for the satisfaction of the curious reader. There is no dean belonging to the cathedral of this place; but here is a precentor, who has the power of a dean, a chancellor, a treasurer, four archdeacons, nineteen prebendaries, eight vicars choral, four choristers, and other officers.

In 1369, John, duke of Lancaster, Blanch his wife, and Adam Hutton, bishop of St. David's, founded here a college for a master and seven priests, which was dedicated to St. Mary, and endowed, at the dissolution, with the annual revenue of 111*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

In

In short, St. David's was anciently a considerable city, encompassed with walls, which are now demolished; but from its wild and bleak situation, with the barrenness of the country near it, has become so deserted, that it has neither market nor fair. In the sea, before this promontory, are five or six rocks, called the Bishop and his Clerks, which we have already mentioned, as being covered with wild fowl, and are much dreaded by sailors, many ships having been wrecked upon them. Near St. David's head is also an island, called Ramsay island, which, on the east, shoots out in a high promontory, but on the west is level and fruitful, and is said to have been inhabited by so many saints, that no less than twenty thousand are said, in ancient histories, to lie interred there. Though now, the passage between South-Britain and Ireland is at Holyhead, in the isle of Anglesey, it was formerly at this place, from which the passage between the two kingdoms is both shorter, safer, and more convenient, for those who have business to transact on the coast.

On a cliff which hangs over the sea, about the distance of half a mile from St. David's, is a stone so large, that it is said a hundred oxen could not drag it away; it is called by the Welch *Y Maen Sigl*, or the Rocking-stone, from its having been mounted upon other stones about three feet high, and placed in such an equilibrium, that a man might move it with one finger from side to side; but the parliament soldiers, in the civil wars under Charles the First, considering this stone as an object of superstition, destroyed its equipoise, and rendered it immoveable.

At a place anciently called *VALLIS ROSINA*, supposed to be situated near Menevia, St. David, soon after the year 519, built a monastery for monks,

monks, whom he required to support themselves with the labour of their hands, and yet to spend a considerable part of every day in prayer, reading and meditation.

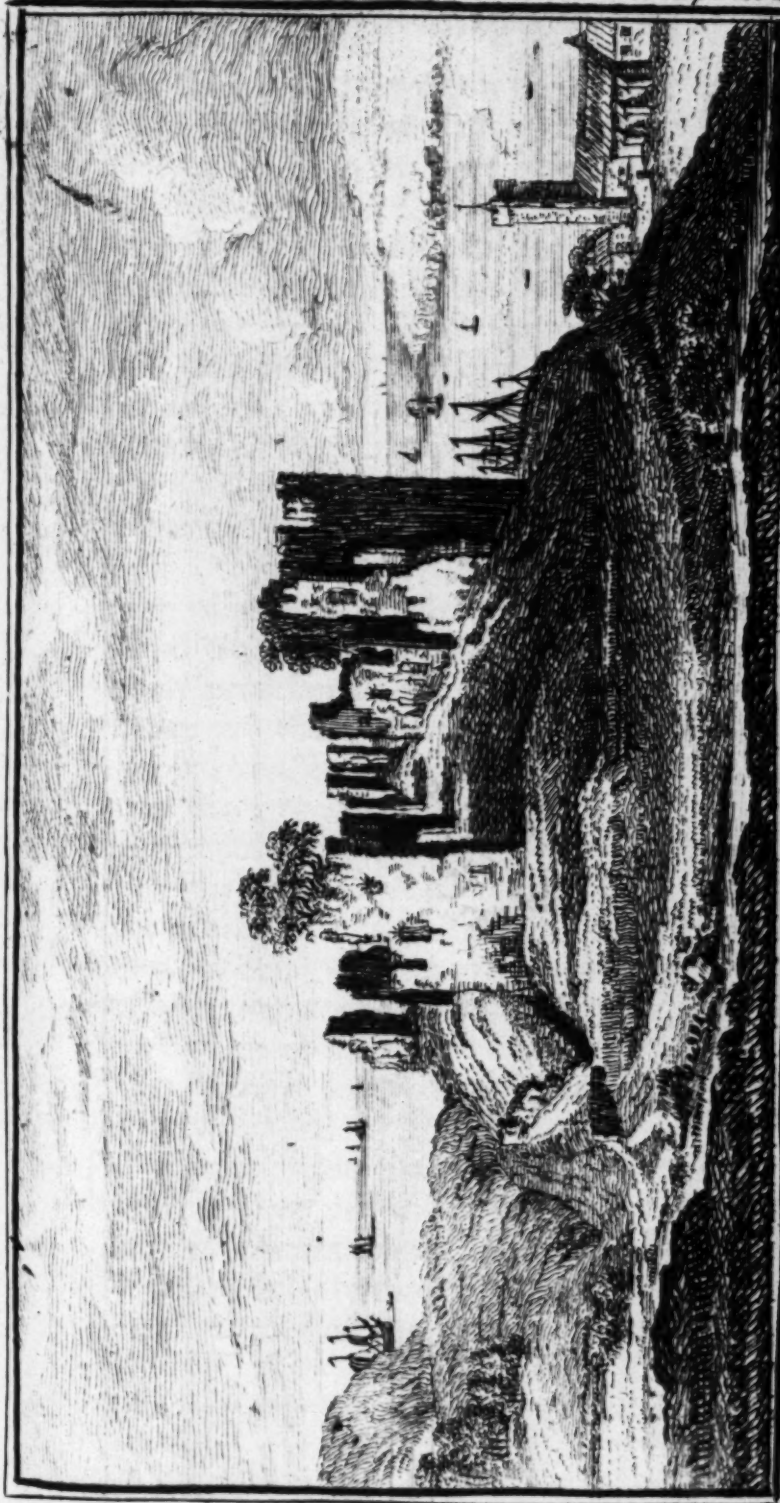
From St. David's a road extends fifteen miles north-east to FISCARD, or FISHCARD, which is seated on a steep cliff on the sea-shore, in the road from St. David's to Cardigan, and derives its English name from a fishery, probably of herrings, at this place; but it is called by the Welch Aber Gwaine, or the mouth of the Gwaine, from its situation at the influx of the river Gwaine, into the sea, which here forms a spacious bay. It is governed by a mayor, a bailiff, and other officers; and here vessels may lie safely in five or six fathoms water, if they have good tackle, for the ground is a strong blue clay and sand; but when the winds are northerly, they must lie close in shore. The inhabitants have a good trade in herrings, and annually cure, between Fiscard and Newport, above a thousand barrels of them. The adjacent country abounds in corn, and the town has a market on Fridays, but no fairs.

Nine miles to the eastward of Fiscard is NEWPORT, which is called in Welch Trevdraeth, which signifies the town in the sand. It stands at the mouth of the river Nevern, which falls into the bay of Newport, and was built by Martin de Tours, whose posterity made it a corporation, governed by a portrieve and bailiff. They also built a castle above the town, which was their chief seat, in the year 1215. It was afterwards in a manner demolished by Llewellyn, prince of South Wales, it being then possessed by the Flemings. In process of time it came to the family of the Owens, who also became lords of Kemaes; and for want of issue male fell to John Langhorne,

horne, of Laurithan, Gent. and to Mrs. Lloyd, of Brownwith, who lately had it in their possession. Of this castle, which is now ruinous, we have given an engraved view. The town is large, but the buildings are mean; it has, however, a handsome church, and the inhabitants have some trade to Ireland: notwithstanding which it is a poor place, chiefly supported by passengers to and from Ireland. In the bay is a quarry of slates, which supplies all this coast, and not far from thence is a vein of allum earth. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 27th of June, for cattle, horses, and sheep. In this town was anciently a house of Augustine friars.

At NEVERN, near Newport, is a rude stone in the church-yard, pitched upon one end, and about six feet high, on which is an inscription, supposed to refer to a Roman soldier, and is thus read, VITELLIANI EMERITI. On the south side of the same church-yard, is erected a very handsome pillar, like the shaft or upright beam of a cross. It is of a quadrangular form, about two feet broad, eighteen inches thick, and thirteen feet high, neatly carved on all sides with certain endless knots, about thirty-one in number, and all of them different. The top is covered with a cross stone, below which is a cross carved on the east and west sides; and about the middle are some uncouth letters, which are perhaps the initial letters of the names of those persons who erected the cross.

Near PENTERE EVAU, in Nevern parish, are several rude stones, placed upon one end in a circular order. In the midst of the circle, which is a hundred and fifty feet in circumference, is a rude stone of a prodigious size, it being about eighteen feet in height, nine in breadth, and three feet



The South View of Newport Castle, in the County of Pembroke.



feet thick, supported on three stone pillars about eight feet high, with five others, which seem at present of no use, they being too short to bear any part of the weight of the top stone. A part of this stone, above ten feet long and five broad, is broken off, and seems to be more than twenty oxen can draw. The ground beneath is paved with flag-stones. This is called by the Welch Y Gromlech, which signifies bowing to a stone; whence it has been concluded, that this was a place of worship, as were all the other circular stones of the same kind in Great-Britain and Ireland. This has been more particularly proved, with respect to the stone circles in Cornwall. It is sufficient to add, that Dr. James Garden, formerly professor of divinity at Aberdeen, has taken notice of these circular monuments in Scotland, and has rendered it exceeding probable, that they were the temples of the Druids. We have given a particular description of several of these ancient monuments; and it must be allowed, that they are astonishing proofs of the skill of the ancient Britons, in being able to raise stones of such immense weight, and to fix them with such niceness, and so exact an equilibrium, on the top of other stones.

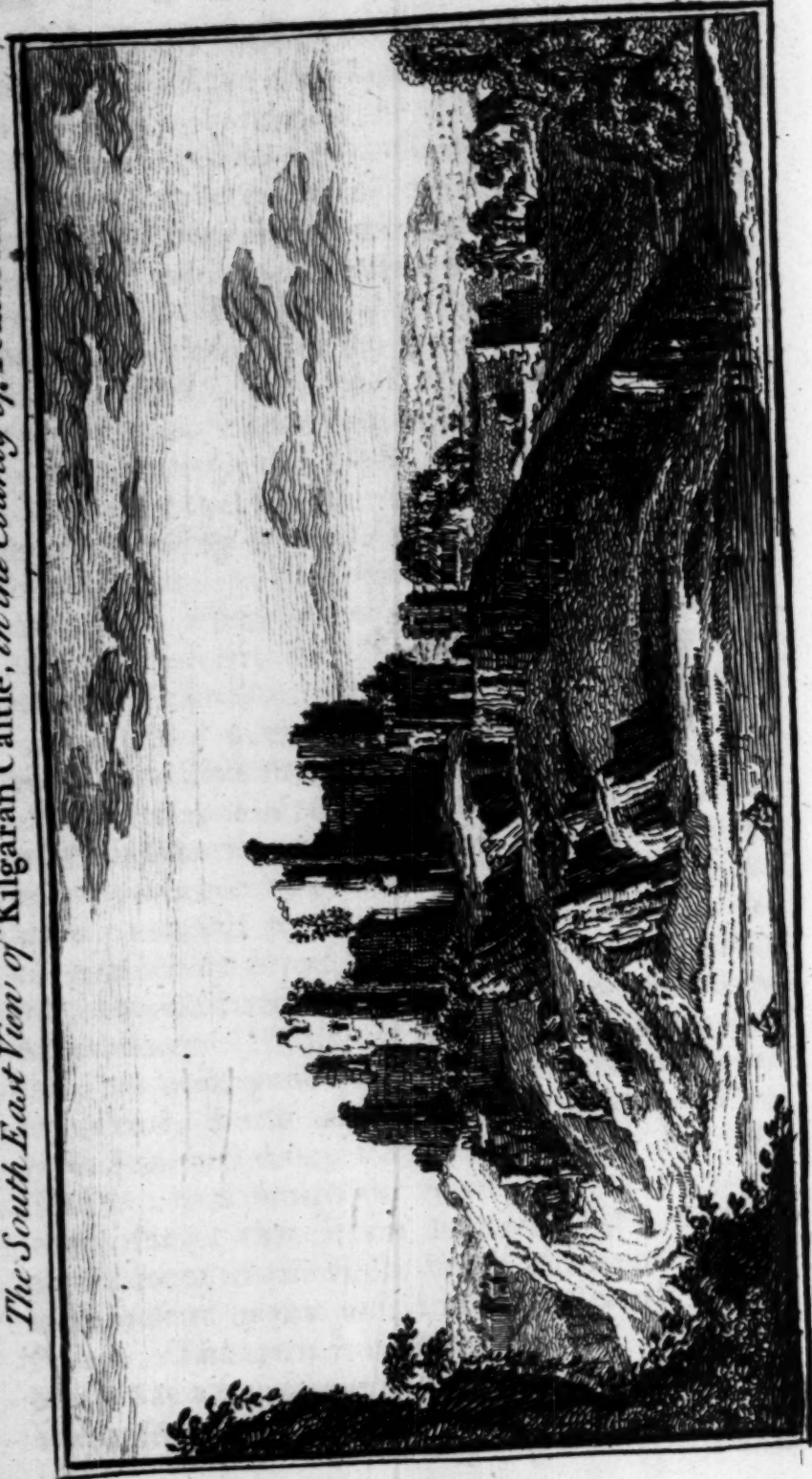
In Nevern parish there is another monument, commonly called Lhech-y-drybedh, that is, the Tripod, and some name it the Altar-stone. It is somewhat of an oval form, and about twelve yards in circumference, placed on four stones, one of which is only two feet high, and consequently bears no part of the weight. At the south end, it is about four feet and a half in thickness, but grows gradually thinner at the other end. At this end there is a furrow, which might serve to carry off any liquid that should run down.

Six miles north-east of Newport is **ST. DOGMAEL'S**, a village on a promontory, which forms the most northern part of this county, and is washed on one side by St. George's channel, and the other by the mouth of the Teivy. Here was a priory of Benedictine monks, seated by that river, in a vale encompassed with hills, founded by Martin de Turribus, a Norman, who first conquered the land about it, called Kames, or Kemish. Robert, the son of this Martin, endowed it with lands, which were confirmed to the monks by king Henry the First. At the reformation king Henry the Eighth granted it to one Bradshaw, reserving a yearly rent to himself and his successor, and in this family it remained till the year 1640, when it was sold to David Parry, of Naiodd Trefawr, Esq; and was lately in the possession of Mrs. Anne Parry.

Four miles to the south-east of the above abbey, and a little more than two miles to the south of Cardigan, is **KILLGARRING**, or **KILGARAN**, which is seated on the north bank of the Teivy, and is governed by a portrieve, and a bailiff. Here are the ruins of a castle, said to have been erected by Gilbert Strongbow, earl of Strygyl; but others think its foundation was laid by Roger de Montgomery. This, as well as many other castles, has undergone great revolutions, such as being razed, burnt and rebuilt, during intestine broils, as well as in the wars with the English. The ruins, of which we have given an engraved view, shew, that it has formerly been a strong place, some of the walls being still standing. It is at present in the possession of the family of the Prices. The town is now reduced into one street, but it has a handsome church, and a market on Wednesdays, with two fairs, one held on the 21st of



The South East View of Kilgaran Castle, in the County of Pembroke.



of August; and the other, which is a large fair, on the 12th of November, for cattle, horses and pedlary.

Here is a salmon fishery, and also a remarkable salmon-leap at a cataract in the river. The salmon, in its way up the river from the sea, no sooner reaches the cataract, than it forms into a curve, by bending its tail to its mouth, and sometimes, in order to mount with the greater velocity, Camden says, holds its tail between its teeth, then suddenly disengaging itself, springs up the precipice.

This county, among others, has produced the following great men.

Afferius Menevensis, by some called Affer, a learned monk in the ninth century, was born, as is supposed, in the county of Pembroke; and educated in the monastery of St. David's (in Latin Menevia) whence he derived his surname of Menevensis. He was a distinguished favourite of king Alfred the Great, whom he assisted in his studies, and who bestowed upon him, as a reward of his services, the bishopric of Sherburn. We are farther told, that it was by his advice that that prince refounded the university of Oxford. The time of his death is uncertain. He wrote the life of king Alfred, and some other tracts.

Giraldus Cambrensis, a voluminous writer in the end of the twelfth, and beginning of the thirteenth centuries, was descended of a noble family in South Wales, and born in the castle of Mainarpir near Pembroke, about the year 1146. He received his education partly at home, and partly at the university of Paris, where, according to his own account (for he was the very quintessence of vanity) he made a most surprizing progress.

gress in his studies. His learning, which, however, for the age he lived in, was really great, and his powerful connections, which were of still more consequence, procured him some considerable preferments in the church, and, among others, the archdeaconry of Brechin; but he could never attain to what was the chief object of his ambition, the bishopric of St. David's; for, tho' he was actually, in 1199, elected to that see, and made three several journies to Rome, in order to solicit his confirmation, he could not prevail upon the pope to grant his request, and he was at last obliged to desist from his pretensions. Mortified at a disappointment, which he so little expected, he withdrew from the world, and burying himself in obscurity, employed the greatest part of his time in composing those works, which he afterwards published. The time of his death is uncertain. He had formerly been rector of the public schools at Paris, chaplain to king Henry the Second, and secretary to earl John, afterwards king John, while that prince was in Ireland. His works are numerous, and not destitute of merit; but the style is so extremely quaint, and affected, so full of quibbles and gingling concerts; and the author throughout betrays such a degree of vanity, that it is impossible to read him without being disgusted. His principal performances are, *Topographia Heberniae*; *Historia Valicinalis ele expugnatione Heberniae*; *Itinerarum Cambriae*; *Topographia Cambriae*; *De Rebus a Segeftis*, &c.

Sir John Perrot, an eminent statesman in the sixteenth century, was descended of an honourable family, and born in this county, about the year 1527. Having compleated his education in the house of the marquis of Winchester, lord high treasurer of England (for, in imitation of the
ancient

ancient Romans, it was then a practice in England, for young gentlemen to be instructed in the families of great ministers) he became a particular favourite of king Henry the Eighth, from whose loins he was generally supposed to be sprung; he enjoyed the same influence under king Edward the Sixth, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood; he was exempted, during the reign of queen Mary, from all persecution, on account of his religion, which was the protestant; and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland. In this post he acquitted himself with great vigilance and activity; but being naturally a man of a high spirit, and of an imperious temper, he was guilty of some severities, which laid him open to the intrigues of his enemies, who at last effected his ruin; for, in 1592, he was committed prisoner to the tower of London, and being brought to his trial, was convicted of high-treason. The queen, however, was so fully convinced of his innocence, that she intended to have granted him a pardon; but was prevented from shewing this mark of her clemency, by Sir John's natural death, which happened in the tower in the month of September, of the same year. He was a man of great bodily strength and agility; and excelled most of his contemporaries in feats of arms, and in the practice of chivalry.

